# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS VICTORIA DIVISION

In re:	§	Case No. 22-60043
	§	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC	§	Chapter 11
	§	
Debtor	§	

#### UNITED STATES TRUSTEE'S WITNESS/EXHIBIT LIST

Main Case No: 22-60043	Name of Debtor:
	Free Speech Systems, LLC
Witnesses:	
	Judge: Christopher Lopez
W. Marc Schwartz	
Any witness called by any other party	Hearing Date: August 3, 2022
	Hearing Time: 10:00 am
	Party's Name: United States Trustee
	Attorney's Name: Ha M. Nguyen
	Attorney's Phone: 202-590-7962

NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS: The Court is considering various first day motions filed in the bankruptcy case of Free Speech Systems, LLC.

#### **EXHIBITS**

Ex.	Description	Offered	Objection	Admitted/	Disposition
#				Not	
				Admitted	
1	Any exhibit introduced by any other party				
2	Any exhibit identified or offered by any other party				

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: KEVIN M. EPSTEIN UNITED STATES TRUSTEE

DATED: August 3, 2022 /s/ HA M NGUYEN

Ha Nguyen, Trial Attorney
CA Bar #305411
FED ID NO. 3623593
United States Department of Justice
Office of the United States Trustee
515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516
Houston, Texas 77002
E-mail: Ha.Nguyen@usdoj.gov

Cell: 202-590-7962

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### ENTERED

August 03, 2022 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS VICTORIA DIVISION

In re:	) Case No. 22- <u>60043</u>
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	) Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
Debtor.	)

# ORDER GRANTING EXTENTION OF TIME TO FILE SCHEDULES AND STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Upon the motion (the "Motion") of the Debtor for entry of an order (this "Order"): Debtor's Emergency Motion to Extend Time to File Schedules and Statement of Financial Affair (the "Motion")², filed by the above-captioned debtor (the "Debtor"). The Court finds that: (i) it has jurisdiction over the matters raised in the Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; (ii) this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); (iii) the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtor, its estate, and its creditors; (iv) proper and adequate notice of the Motion has been given and no other or further notice is necessary; and (v) upon the record herein after due deliberation thereon, good and sufficient cause exists for the granting of the relief as set forth herein.

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Motion is GRANTED
- 2. The time within which the Debtor shall file its Schedules and Statements is extended pursuant to Bankruptcy Code § 1116(3) and Bankruptcy Rule 1007(c) to and including, August 29, 2022, without prejudice to the Debtor's right to seek an additional extension upon a showing of extraordinary and compelling circumstances.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

3. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and consider all disputes arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Order.

Signed: August 03, 2022

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

#### Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 5 of 262

#### SmBus, PlnDue, DsclsDue, RegSepNtc, Subchapter V, APPEAL, APPEAL NAT

### **U.S. Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas (Houston) Bankruptcy Petition #: 22-60043**

Date filed: 07/29/2022 Date of Intradistrict transfer: 08/04/2022 Assigned to: Bankruptcy Judge Christopher M. Lopez

341 meeting: 09/07/2022

Chapter 11 Deadline for filing claims: 10/07/2022 Voluntary Deadline for filing claims (govt.): 02/07/2023 Asset Deadline for objecting to discharge: 03/10/2023

Debtor

Free Speech Systems LLC

3019 Alvin Devane Blvd. STE 300

Austin, TX 78741 TRAVIS-TX

SSN / ITIN: xxx-xx-0005

#### represented by Raymond William Battaglia

Law Offices of Ray Battaglia, PLLC

66 Granburg Circle San Antonio, TX 78218

2106019405

Email: rbattaglialaw@outlook.com

#### **Kyung Shik Lee**

Kyung S. Lee PLLC 4723 Oakshire Drive

Apt. B

Houston, TX 77027 713-301-4751

Email: kslee50@gmail.com

#### R. J. Shannon

Shannon & Lee LLP 700 Milam St., STE 1300 Houston, TX 77002 713-714-5770

Email: rshannon@shannonpllc.com

#### **Christina Walton Stephenson**

Crowe & Dunlevy 2525 McKinnon St.

Ste 425

Dallas, TX 75201 214-420-2163

Email: <u>Crissie.Stephenson@crowedunlevy.com</u>

#### Trustee

Melissa A Haselden

Haselden Farrow PLLC Pennzoil Place 700 Milam Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77002 832.819.1149

#### represented by Elizabeth Carol Freeman

The Law Office of Liz Freeman

PO Box 61209

Houston, TX 77208-1209

832-779-3580

Email: liz@lizfreemanlaw.com

#### Melissa Anne Haselden

Haselden Farrow PLLC

#### 

Pennzoil Place 700 Milam Suite 1300

Houston, TX 77002 832.819.1149

Fax: 866.405.6038

Email: <a href="mailto:mhaselden@haseldenfarrow.com">mhaselden@haseldenfarrow.com</a>

U.S. Trustee US Trustee

Office of the US Trustee 515 Rusk Ave Ste 3516 Houston, TX 77002 713-718-4650 represented by Ha Minh Nguyen

Office of the United States Trustee

515 Rusk St Ste 3516

Houston, TX 77002 202-590-7962

Email: <u>ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov</u>

Jayson B. Ruff

Office of the United States Trustee

515 Rusk St. Ste. 3516

Houston, TX 77002 713-718-4650

Fax: 713-718-4670

Email: <u>jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov</u>

**Creditor Committee Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors** 

of Alexander E. Jones

c/o Marty L. Brimmage, Jr. Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

2300 N. Field Street, Suite 1800

Dallas, TX 75201 214-969-2800 represented by Marty L Brimmage

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

2300 N. Field Street

**Suite 1800** 

Dallas, TX 75201 214-969-2885

Fax: 214-969-4343

Email: <a href="mailto:mbrimmage@akingump.com">mbrimmage@akingump.com</a>

Filing Date	#	Docket Text
08/03/2022	<b>3</b> 1	Courtroom Minutes. Time Hearing Held: 10:00 AM. Appearances: Raymond Battaglia, Kyung Lee, R.J. Shannon, W. Marc Schwartz, Norm Pattis, Avi Moshenberg, Jarrod Martin, Marty Brimmage, Ryan Chapple, Alinor Sterling, Christopher Mattei, Ha Nguyen, Millie Sall, Stephen Lemmon, Melissa Haselden, Shelby Jordan. (Related document(s):6 Emergency Motion, 7 Emergency Motion, 8 Emergency Motion). Arguments heard. Evidence presented. Witness: W. Marc Schwartz. For the reasons stated on the record, Motions Granted. Debtor's counsel is to file a proposed form of order. Order Signed as to 9 Motion for Extension of Time. Continued Cash Collateral Hybrid Hearing is scheduled for 8/24/2022 at 10:00 AM. (ZildeMartinez) (Entered: 08/03/2022)

Fill in this information to identify the case:			
United States Bankrup	tcy Court for the:		
Southern	District ofTexas		
Case number (If known):	22-60043	Chapter <u>11</u> _	

Check if this is an amended filing

### Official Form 201

#### **AMENDED**

## **Voluntary Petition for Non-Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy**

06/22

If more space is needed, attach a separate sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write the debtor's name and the case number (if known). For more information, a separate document, *Instructions for Bankruptcy Forms for Non-Individuals*, is available.

1.	Debtor's name	Free Speech Systems LLC	
2.	All other names debtor used		
	in the last 8 years		
	Include any assumed names, trade names, and <i>doing business</i> as names		
	as names		
3.	Debtor's federal Employer Identification Number (EIN)	<u> 26 _ 1510005 </u>	
4.	Debtor's address	Principal place of business	Mailing address, if different from principal place of business
		3019 Alvin Devane Blvd., STE 300 Number Street	Number Street
			P.O. Box
		Austin, TX 78741	
		City State ZIP Code	City State ZIP Code
			Location of principal assets, if different from principal place of business
		Travis	
		County	Number Street
			City State ZIP Code
	Debterie website (UDL)		
5.	Debtor's website (URL)		

# 

Deb		tems LLC 22-60043  Case number (if known)
6.	Type of debtor	Corporation (including Limited Liability Company (LLC) and Limited Liability Partnership (LLP))  Partnership (excluding LLP)  Other. Specify:
7.	Describe debtor's business	A. Check one:  Health Care Business (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(27A))  Single Asset Real Estate (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51B))  Railroad (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(44))  Stockbroker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(53A))  Commodity Broker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(6))  Clearing Bank (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 781(3))  None of the above
		B. Check all that apply:  Tax-exempt entity (as described in 26 U.S.C. § 501)  Investment company, including hedge fund or pooled investment vehicle (as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 80a-3)  Investment advisor (as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 80b-2(a)(11))
		NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) 4-digit code that best describes debtor. See <a href="http://www.uscourts.gov/four-digit-national-association-naics-codes">http://www.uscourts.gov/four-digit-national-association-naics-codes</a> .      5151
8.	Under which chapter of the Bankruptcy Code is the debtor filing?  A debtor who is a "small business debtor" must check the first subbox. A debtor as defined in § 1182(1) who elects to proceed under subchapter V of chapter 11 (whether or not the debtor is a "small business debtor") must check the second sub-box.	Check one:  ☐ Chapter 7 ☐ Chapter 9 ☐ Chapter 11. Check all that apply: ☐ The debtor is a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D), and its aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$3,024,725. If this sub-box is selected, attach the most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash-flow statement, and federal income tax return or if any of these documents do not exist, follow the procedure in 11 U.S.C. § 1116(1)(B). ☐ The debtor is a debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 1182(1), its aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are
		less than \$7,500,000, and it chooses to proceed under Subchapter V of Chapter 11. If this sub-box is selected, attach the most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash-flow statement, and federal income tax return, or if any of these documents do not exist, follow the procedure in 11 U.S.C. § 1116(1)(B).
		<ul><li>A plan is being filed with this petition.</li><li>Acceptances of the plan were solicited prepetition from one or more classes of</li></ul>
		creditors, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1126(b).  The debtor is required to file periodic reports (for example, 10K and 10Q) with the Securities and Exchange Commission according to § 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. File the Attachment to Voluntary Petition for Non-Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy under Chapter 11 (Official Form 201A) with this form.
		☐ The debtor is a shell company as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Rule 12b-2. ☐ Chapter 12
		🛥 Onapici 12

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Debtor	Free Speech Syst	ems LLC	Case number (if known)	_
file wit	ere prior bankruptcy cases ad by or against the debtor thin the last 8 years?  nore than 2 cases, attach a parate list.	No District	When Case number  MM / DD / YYYYY  When Case number	
per bus affi List	e any bankruptcy cases nding or being filed by a siness partner or an iliate of the debtor?  all cases. If more than 1, ach a separate list.	District	Relationship When MM / DD /YYYY	_
	ny is the case filed in <i>this</i> etrict?	immediately preceding the date district.	incipal place of business, or principal assets in this district for 180 days e of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 days than in any other debtor's affiliate, general partner, or partnership is pending in this district.	
pos pro tha	es the debtor own or have ssession of any real operty or personal property t needs immediate ention?	Why does the property in the hazard? It needs to be physical attention (for example assets or other option Other Where is the property insured? Is the property insured? No	operty that needs immediate attention. Attach additional sheets if needed need immediate attention? (Check all that apply.)  o pose a threat of imminent and identifiable hazard to public health or safelly secured or protected from the weather.  goods or assets that could quickly deteriorate or lose value without produce, investock, seasonal goods, meat, dairy, produce, or securities-related selection.  Number Street  State ZIP Code	I. fety.

Official Form 201

Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 10 of 262

22-60043 Free Speech Systems LLC Debtor Case number (if known) 13. Debtor's estimation of Check one: available funds Funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors. ☐ After any administrative expenses are paid, no funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors. **1-49** 1,000-5,000 25,001-50,000 14. Estimated number of **X** 50-99 **5**,001-10,000 **5**0,001-100,000 creditors **1**00-199 **1**0,001-25,000 ☐ More than 100,000 200-999 \$0-\$50.000 **□** \$1,000,001-\$10 million □ \$500,000,001-\$1 billion 15. Estimated assets \$50,001-\$100,000 \$10,000,001-\$50 million ■ \$1,000,000,001-\$10 billion **□** \$50,000,001-\$100 million \$100,001-\$500,000 ■ \$10.000.000.001-\$50 billion □ \$500,001-\$1 million **□** \$100,000,001-\$500 million ☐ More than \$50 billion **□** \$500,000,001-\$1 billion \$0-\$50,000 □ \$1,000,001-\$10 million 16. Estimated liabilities \$50.001-\$100.000 ■ \$10.000.001-\$50 million **□** \$1,000,000,001-\$10 billion \$100,001-\$500,000 **\$**50,000,001-\$100 million **□** \$10,000,000,001-\$50 billion □ \$500,001-\$1 million ■ \$100,000,001-\$500 million ☐ More than \$50 billion Request for Relief, Declaration, and Signatures WARNING -- Bankruptcy fraud is a serious crime. Making a false statement in connection with a bankruptcy case can result in fines up to \$500,000 or imprisonment for up to 20 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 1341, 1519, and 3571. 17. Declaration and signature of The debtor requests relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this authorized representative of petition. debtor I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor. I have examined the information in this petition and have a reasonable belief that the information is true and correct. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. 07/29/2022 Executed on W. Marc Schwartz Printed name Title Chief Restructuring Officer

## Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 11 of 262

Debtor Free Speech	Systems LLC	22-60043 Case number (# known)
18. Signature of attorney	Signature of attorney for debtor	Date 8/3/2022  MM /DD /YYYY
	Raymond W. Battaglia	
	Law Offices of Ray Batta	aglia, PLLC
	66 Granburg Circle Number Street	
	San Antonio <sup>City</sup>	Texas 78218 State ZIP Code
	(210) 601-9405 Contact phone	<u>rbattaglialaw@outlook.com</u> Email address
		Texas

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### **ENTERED**

August 01, 2022 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS VICTORIA DIVISION

In re:	) Case No. 22- <u>60043</u>
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
Debtor.	)

# ORDER MODIFYING AUTOMATIC STAY TO ALLOW HESLIN/LEWIS TRIAL TO CONTINUE TO FINAL JUDGMENT

At Victoria, in said District, came on for consideration the Emergency Motion to Lift Automatic Stay in Favor of Neil Heslin and Scarlett Lewis to Continue Trial to Judgment (the "Motion") filed by Free Speech Systems, LLC (the "Debtor" or "FSS"); and it appearing to the Court that notice of the hearing on the Motion is adequate, appropriate and sufficient under the circumstances of this case; and it further appearing to the Court that prior to the Petition Date, Neil Heslin and Scarlett Lewis (collectively, the "Plaintiffs") commenced state-court actions against FSS consolidated into the action styled as Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones and Free Speech Systems, LLC, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001835, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas Heslin/Lewis State Court Litigation"); and it appearing to the Court that a trial in the Heslin/Lewis Litigation is ongoing before Judge Maya Guerra Gamble, 459th Civil District Court, Travis County (the "Texas State Court"); and it appearing that on July 29, 2022 (the "Petition Date"), the Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, Victoria Division (the "Bankruptcy Court"); and the automatic stay provision of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) may prevent the continuation of the Heslin/Lewis State Court Litigation; and the Debtor having agreed to the modification of the automatic stay so as to permit the Texas State Court to proceed

up to and including the entry of judgment, if any, in the Heslin/Lewis State Court Litigation and

the Plaintiffs to litigate the matter to judgment;;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The automatic stay provision of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) be and hereby is modified solely

for the purpose of allowing the Heslin/Lewis State Court Litigation to continue to proceed to

judgment by the Texas State Court.

2. Except to assert the claim against FSS in FSS's bankruptcy case, the automatic stay

shall continue to enjoin the Plaintiffs and any other party, from exercising against FSS any

remedies to collect or enforce any judgment against any assets of FSS or its bankruptcy estate

including all property of the estate.

3. This Court shall retain sole and exclusive jurisdiction with respect to the automatic

stay and its application to any actions other than those expressly provided for in this Order.

Signed: August 01, 2022

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

#### 

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

In re: Case No. 22-60043-cml
Free Speech Systems LLC Chapter 11

Debtor

#### CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

District/off: 0541-6 User: ADIuser Page 1 of 2
Date Rcvd: Aug 01, 2022 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 2

The following symbols are used throughout this certificate:

Symbol Definition

+ Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP, adding the last four digits to complete the zip +4, or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS

regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Aug 03, 2022:

Recipi ID Recipient Name and Address

db + Free Speech Systems LLC, 3019 Alvin Devane Blvd. STE 300, Austin, TX 78741-7417

cr + David Wheeler, et al., c/o Cain & Skarnulis PLLC, 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850, Austin, TX 78701-4653

TOTAL: 2

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.

Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI).

NONE

#### BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, \*duplicate of an address listed above, \*P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

NONE

#### **NOTICE CERTIFICATION**

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Aug 03, 2022 Signature: /s/Gustava Winters

#### CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on August 1, 2022 at the address(es) listed

below:

Name Email Address

Ha Minh Nguyen

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov

R. J. Shannon

on behalf of Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC rshannon@shannonpllc.com rshannon@shannonleellp.com;7044075420@filings.docketbird.com

Randy W Williams

on behalf of Creditor David Wheeler et al. rww@bymanlaw.com,

rw13@trustesolutions.com;rw13@trustesolutions.net;rw11@trustesolutions.net;rww.trustee1@gmail.com

Raymond William Battaglia

on behalf of Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC rbattaglialaw@outlook.com rwbresolve@gmail.com

Ryan E Chapple

on behalf of Creditor David Wheeler et al. rchapple@cstrial.com, aprentice@cstrial.com

## Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 15 of 262

District/off: 0541-6 User: ADIuser Page 2 of 2
Date Rcvd: Aug 01, 2022 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 2

US Trustee

USTPRegion07.HU.ECF@USDOJ.GOV

TOTAL: 6

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### **ENTERED**

August 04, 2022 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS VICTORIA DIVISION

IN RE:	§	CASE NO. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC	§	
Debtor.	§	CHAPTER 11
	§	SUBCHAPTER V
	§	

#### ORDER FOR INTRADISTRICT TRANSFER

On the Court's own motion, this case is transferred to the Houston Division in accordance with the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the Southern District of Texas. The case will be retained on the undersigned judge's Houston docket. The case number shall remain unchanged.

Signed: August 04, 2022

United States Bankruptcy Judge

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

#### **Southern District of Texas**

#### PDF FILE WITH AUDIO FILE ATTACHMENT

2022-60043

Free Speech Systems LLC

First Day Hearings Morning Session

Case Type: bk

Case Number: 2022-60043

Case Title: Free Speech Systems LLC

Audio Date\Time: 8/3/2022 10:02:10 AM

Audio File Name: 4bk2022-60043 20220803-100210.mp3

Audio File Size: 61637 KB

Audio Run Time: [02:08:25] (hh:mm:ss)

#### Help using this file:

An audio file is embedded as an attachment in this PDF document. To listen to the file, click the Attachments tab or the Paper Clip icon. Select the Audio File and click Open.

#### MPEG Layer-3 audio coding technology from Fraunhofer IIS and Thomson.

This digital recording is a copy of a court proceeding and is provided as a convenience to the public. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 753 (b) "[n]o transcripts of the proceedings of the court shall be considered as official except those made from the records certified by the reporter or other individual designated to produce the record."

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

#### **Southern District of Texas**

#### PDF FILE WITH AUDIO FILE ATTACHMENT

2022-60043

Free Speech Systems LLC

First Day Hearings Afternoon Session

Case Type: bk

Case Number: 2022-60043

Case Title: Free Speech Systems LLC

Audio Date\Time: 8/3/2022 1:22:05 PM

Audio File Name: 4bk2022-60043\_20220803-132205.mp3

Audio File Size: 101514 KB

Audio Run Time: [03:31:29] (hh:mm:ss)

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This digital recording is a copy of a court proceeding and is provided as a convenience to the public. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 753 (b) "[n]o transcripts of the proceedings of the court shall be considered as official except those made from the records certified by the reporter or other individual designated to produce the record."

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:	§	Case No. 22-60043
	§	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	-
Debtor.	§	

# NOTICE OF RE-SET HEARING [Related to ECF No. 15]

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing regarding David Wheeler, Francine Wheeler, Jacqueline Barden, Mark Barden, Nicole Hockley, Ian Hockley, Jennifer Hensel, Donna Soto, Carlee Soto Parisi, Carlos M. Soto, Jillian Soto-Marino, William Aldenberg, William Sherlach, and Robert Parker's (collectively, the Connecticut Plaintiffs) *Emergency Motion for Relief from the Automatic Stay* (the Emergency Motion) [Dkt. 15] that was originally scheduled for Friday, August 5, 2022 has been continued and will be heard on Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. (central standard time) before the Honorable Christopher M. Lopez, United States Bankruptcy Judge, 515 Rusk, 4th Floor, Courtroom 404, Houston, Texas 77002.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that this hearing will be conducted in person, by telephone, and by remote video conference. Parties wishing to participate in the hearing telephonically may do so by dialing **1-832-917-1510** and entering conference code **590153** when prompted. Parties may also participate via remote video conference by going to <a href="https://www.gotomeet.me/JudgeLopez">https://www.gotomeet.me/JudgeLopez</a> and clicking the "join the meeting" button; parties may join by entering the meeting code: **JudgeLopez**.

Respectfully submitted this 4th day of August 2022.

/s/ Ryan E. Chapple

Ryan E. Chapple State Bar No. 24036354 rchapple@cstrial.com

CAIN & SKARNULIS PLLC 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850 Austin, Texas 78701 512-477-5000 512-477-5011—Facsimile and

Randy W. Williams State Bar No. 21566850 rww@bymanlaw.com

Byman & Associates PLLC
7924 Broadway, Suite 104
Pearland, Texas 77581
281-884-9262
ATTORNEYS FOR CONNECTICUT
PLAINTIFFS

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Hearing has been served on counsel for Debtor, Debtor, and all parties receiving or entitled to notice through CM/ECF on this 4th day of August 2022.

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC.,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Debtor.	§	

# INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR'S USE OF CASH COLLATERAL AND PROVIDING PARTIAL ADEQUATE PROTECTION

On July 29, 2022, the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "Debtor" or "FSS") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "Case"), filed its *Emergency Motion for an Interim and Final Order* (1) Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(b) and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Pre-Petition Secured Lender (the "Motion"). In the Motion, the Debtor requested, inter alia, entry of this interim order (this "Order") pursuant to Sections 105, 361, and 363 of title 11 of the United States Code,11 U.S.C. §§ 101, et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), and in accordance with Rules 2002, 4001,and 9014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), authorizing the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral (as hereinafter defined), as set forth herein. The Court, having considered the Motion, and having held an interim hearing on the Motion on August 3, 2022 (the "Interim Hearing"), and having considered the evidence presented or proffered and the statements and representations of the parties on the record at the Interim Hearing; and all objections, if any, to the entry of this Interim Order having been resolved by agreement or order of the Court or overruled; and after due deliberation and consideration and sufficient cause appearing therefor;

- 1. <u>The Chapter 11 Case</u>. On July 29, 2022 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>") the Debtor commenced the above captioned case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas (this "<u>Court</u>").
- 2. <u>Debtor-in-Possession</u>. The Debtor continues to operate its business and manage its property as debtor-in-possession pursuant to Section 1182(2) of the Bankruptcy Code. To date, no trustee or examiner

has been appointed in this Case. This Interim Order shall constitute findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7052.

- 3. <u>Jurisdiction and Venue</u>. This Court has jurisdiction over the Case, the Motion and the parties and property affected hereby pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(b) and 1334. Consideration of the Motion is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue of the Case and the Motion in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S. §§ 1408 and 1409. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 4001, and the Local Rules of this Court (the "Local Rules").
- 4. <u>Committee Formation</u>. To date, no official committee (a "<u>Committee</u>") of unsecured creditors, equity interest holders, or other parties in interest has been appointed in the Case.
- Notice. On July 29, 2022, the Debtor served copies of the Motion and notice of the Interim Hearing to all creditors and parties in interest entitled to such notice in compliance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002, 4001, 9014, and the Local Rules, including: (i) the Office of the United States Trustee for this District, (ii) those creditors holding the twenty (20) largest unsecured claims against the Debtor's estate, (iii) PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC Trust ("PQPR"), and (vi) any other secured parties of record. Under the circumstances, such notice of the Interim Hearing and the emergency relief requested in the Motion is due, proper, and sufficient notice and complies with Bankruptcy Rule 4001 and the Local Rules, and no other or further notice of the Interim Hearing or the relief granted in this Interim Order is necessary or required.
- 6. Immediate Need for Use of Cash Collateral. The Debtor asserts that an immediate and critical need exists for the Debtor to use the alleged cash collateral<sup>1</sup> of PQPR as set forth in the budget defined below (the "Cash Collateral") in order to continue the operation of its business. Without such use of Cash Collateral, the Debtor asserts that it will not be able to pay post-petition direct operating expenses and obtain goods and services needed to carry on its business in a manner that will avoid irreparable harm to the Debtor's estate. The Debtor further asserts that its ability to use Cash Collateral is necessary to preserve and maintain the going concern value of the Debtor's estate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As defined at 11 U.S.C. § 363(a).

- 7. <u>Conditional Consent to Use of Cash Collateral</u>. The Debtor seeks authorization to use Cash Collateral to pay the Debtor's ordinary and necessary operating expenses set forth in the budget attached to this Order as Exhibit A (the "<u>Budget</u>") for the period (the "<u>Interim Period</u>") from the Petition Date through and including August 26, 2022 (the "<u>Termination Date</u>"). The lender has agreed to the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral during the Interim Period exclusively in accordance with the terms, conditions, and limitations set forth in this Order and the Budget.]
- 8. <u>Good Cause/Fair and Reasonable Terms</u>. The Debtor asserts that good cause has been shown for the entry of this Order. Among other things, entry of this Order will minimize disruption of the business and operations of the Debtor and permit the Debtor to maintain the going concern value of its business. The use of Cash Collateral authorized hereunder is necessary, essential, and appropriate and is in the best interest of, and will benefit, the Debtor, its creditors, and the Debtor's bankruptcy estate as it will, among other things, provide the Debtor with the necessary liquidity to (i) avoid immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor and its bankruptcy estate; and (ii) preserve and maximize the value of the Debtor's business and assets. The terms and conditions of the use of Cash Collateral and the security interests, liens, rights, and priorities granted to the lenders hereunder are fair and appropriate under the circumstances.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. Motion Granted. The Motion is hereby granted on an interim basis as set forth herein.
- 2. <u>Interim Order</u>. This Order shall be considered an interim cash collateral order and shall be binding upon all parties and upon all subsequently appointed court officers, including any trustee appointed in the Case under Chapter 7 or Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. <u>DIP Account</u>. The Debtor shall maintain debtor in possession ("DIP") accounts at Axos Bank which accounts shall contain all operating revenues and any other source of cash constituting Cash Collateral, which is (or has been) generated by and is attributable to the Debtor's business (the "<u>DIP Account"</u>). All cash generated by the Debtor or from the Debtor's business or assets, including any cash held in any of the Debtor's pre-petition bank accounts, shall be immediately transferred by the Debtor to the DIP Account. The Debtor

shall be prohibited from withdrawing or using Cash Collateral funds from the DIP Account except as provided for in the Budget, this Order, or pursuant to further order of the Court.

- 4. <u>Terms of Cash Collateral Use</u>. The Debtor is hereby authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay the items set forth in the Budget, and up to the respective aggregate amount of disbursements set forth in the Budget for any week during the Interim Period, subject to the Permitted Variance (as hereinafter defined). The Permitted Variance shall be defined as 10% per line item and 20% of the overall Budget. The Debtor shall not use, sell, or expend, directly or indirectly, the Cash Collateral except pursuant to the Budget and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Order.
- 5. No Payments to Insiders. Other than as provided for in the Budget, the Debtor shall not make any payment to or for the benefit of any insider of the Debtor, as that term is defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code. Payments to any insider during the Interim Period shall not exceed \$20,000 in the aggregate.
- 6. Payment to PQPR for Inventory Purchase. Notwithstanding the limitation on payments to insiders set forth in the preceding paragraph, the Debtor is authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay PQPR \$250,000 as provided in the Budget for "Repay PQPR Inventory" (the "PQPR Payment"). The PQPR Payment shall not be used to pay down the PQPR Notes (as defined in the Motion). Creditors and parties in interest shall have thirty (30) days from the date a notice is filed on the docket that the PQPR Payment has been issued to object to the appropriateness of that payment and file pleadings with the Court seeking to clawback the PQPR Payment.
- 7. <u>Further Authorization</u>. The Debtor is hereby authorized to enter into all agreements pursuant to the terms of this Order necessary to allow the Debtor to use Cash Collateral subject to the terms of this Order in the amounts and for the expenses set forth on the Budget. The Debtor is authorized to collect and receive all accounts receivable and other operating revenues and immediately deposit same in the DIP Account.
- 8. <u>Taxes</u>. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to grant PQPR (the "<u>Pre-Petition Lender</u>") liens which are senior to pre- and post-petition statutory ad valorem real property tax liens. The Debtor shall

remain current in all post-petition tax payments and reporting obligations, including, but not limited to, all ad valorem real property taxes and federal trust fund taxes.

- 9. Adequate Protection Replacement Liens. As adequate protection for any diminution in value of each of the Pre-Petition Lender's interest in the Debtor's collateral, if any, including Cash Collateral, resulting from the imposition of the automatic stay with respect to the Collateral and/or the Debtor's use, sale or lease of the Collateral during the Case (the "Diminution in Value"), the Pre-Petition Lender is hereby granted, effective as of the Petition Date, valid, binding, enforceable, and automatically perfected liens (the "Replacement Liens") in all currently owned or hereafter acquired property and assets of the Debtor, of any kind or nature, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, wherever located, now owned or hereafter acquired or arising (excluding avoidance or other causes of action arising under chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code), and all proceeds and products of the foregoing (collectively, the "Adequate Protection Collateral") to the same extent as existed on the Petition Date. The Replacement Liens granted pursuant to this Order shall be subject to the Carve Out.
- 10. <u>Carve Out.</u> The Replacement Liens and Adequate Protection Priority Claim granted herein shall be subject to (a) unpaid fees payable to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court or the United States Trustee; (b) subject to the Budget, court-approved administrative expense claims of estate professionals, employed pursuant to order of this Court (collectively, "Estate Professionals"), for incurred but unpaid fees, expenses and other costs; fees and expenses of the appointed Subchapter V Trustee (all such carve-out amounts referenced above, collectively, the "Carve Out").
- 11. <u>Subsequent Modification of Order</u>. If any or all of the provisions of this Order are hereafter modified, vacated or stayed, such modification, vacation or stay shall not affect the validity of any obligation, indebtedness or liability incurred by the Debtor from the Petition Date through the effective date of such modification, vacation or stay, or the validity or enforceability of any security interest, lien or priority authorized or created by this Order.

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12. <u>Reservation of Rights</u>. Nothing herein shall constitute a finding or ruling by this Court that

any alleged and disputed lien or alleged and disputed security interest held by the alleged Pre-Petition Lender

in respect of the purported PQPR Notes (as defined in the Motion) is valid, senior, enforceable, prior, perfected,

or nonavoidable. Moreover, nothing herein shall prejudice the rights of any party-in-interest, including but not

limited to the Debtor, the Subchapter V Trustee, any official committee appointed in the Chapter 11 Case or

any other creditor, to challenge the validity, priority, enforceability, seniority, avoidability, perfection, or extent

of any alleged and disputed lien or alleged and disputed security interest held by the alleged Pre-Petition Lender

in respect of the purported PQPR Notes.

13. Final Cash Collateral Hearing: A final hearing on the Motion shall be held before this Court

on August 24, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Central time.

Houston, Texas Dated: August , 2022

> CHRISTOPHER LOPEZ UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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# **Forecasted Interim Cash Collateral Budget**

Between July 29, 2022 and August 26, 2022

Period	07/30/2022- 08/05/2022	08/06/2022- 08/12/2022	08/13/2022- 08/19/2022	08/20/2022- 08/26/2022
Week Nu	mber 1	2	3	4
Income				
Product Sales	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01
Advertising	-	-	-	480,166.46
Donations	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25
Total Income	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72
Selling & Product Costs				
Inventory Purchase	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)
Repay PQPR Inventory	-	(250,000.00)	-	-
Merchant Account Fees	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)
Shipping cost for drop ship orders	(7,911.81)	(7,911.81)	(7,911.81)	(7,911.81)
Fulfillment Services	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)
Processor Fees	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)
eCommerce Store Maintenance	(27,270.00)	-	-	-
Texas Sales Tax	(5,337.87)		-	-
Total Cost of Goods Sold	(262,569.67)	(479,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)
Operating Expenses				
Advertising & Promotion				
Advertising & Promotion	(3,041.98)	-	-	-
Print Media	(3,000.00)		-	-
Radio Show Advertising	(11,500.00)		-	-
Total Advertising & Promotion	(17,541.98)	-	-	-
Computer/IT/IP Expense	,			
Internet & TV services	(2,082.90)		(1,608.39)	-
Software License Fees	(140.80)		-	-
Server Hosting Service	(28,595.13)		-	-
CDN Video Cloud Storage	(55,728.00)		-	-
Satellite Service	(137,282.93)		-	-
Imaging License Fee Software & Apps	(9,201.25)		-	-
Website Hosting	(5,000.00)	·	(266.50)	-
Total Computer/IT/IP Expense	(238,031.01)		(1,874.89)	
Insurance	(2,166.50)		(2,07-1105)	-
Office & Administrative Expense	(2)200.00)			
Bank Fees & Service Charges	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)
Equipment Rental	(1,989.90)		-	-
Office Supplies/Printing/Copy	(2.10)		(2.10)	(2.10)
Business Meals	(280.46)		(280.46)	(280.46)
Total Office & Administrative Expense				
Outsourced Services	-	-	-	-
Consulting Services	-	-	-	-
Utilities				
Utility Deposit	(10,000.00)			
Electricity	-	-	(5,107.63)	-
HVAC	(256.19)		-	-
CAM Charges	(20,364.16)		-	-
Water & Sewer	(1,708.55)		-	-
Gas Service	(132.09)		-	-
Pest Control	(244.65)		-	-
Waste Management Total Utilities	(351.81)		(5,107.63)	
Occupancy	(33,057.46)	-	(5,107.03)	-
Rent	(33,408.51)	_	_	_
Office Security	(31,111.90)		-	-
Repair & Maintenance - Building	(1,777.19)		_	_
Janitorial	(5,983.33)		_	-
	(3,555.55)			



Period+A5:E83	07/30/2022-	08/06/2022-	08/13/2022-	08/20/2022-
	08/05/2022	08/12/2022	08/19/2022	08/26/2022
Total Occupancy	(72,280.93)	-	-	-
Supplies	(1,258.02)	-	-	-
Telephone	(18,337.88)	-	-	
Personnel Expenses				
Salaries & Wages - Base	(168,467.44)	-	(168,467.44)	-
Payroll Tax	(13,087.76)	-	(13,087.76)	-
Alex Jones Salary	(10,000.00)	-	(10,000.00)	-
Total Personnel Expenses	(191,555.20)	-	(191,555.20)	-
Travel				
Mileage/Parking/Tolls	(99.69)	(99.69)	(99.69)	(99.69)
Vehicle Leases	-	(1,470.56)	-	-
Total Travel Expenses	(99.69)	(1,570.25)	(99.69)	(99.69)
Total Operating Expenses	(576,647.03)	(1,898.71)	(198,965.88)	(428.15)
Non-Operating Expenses				
Payment on PQPR Note	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
AMEX Payment	-	-	-	-
Total Other Expenses	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
Professional Fees				
CRO Fees	-	-	-	-
Financial Adviosr Fee	-	-	-	-
Shannon & Lee LLP	-	-	-	-
Ray Battaglia	-	-	-	-
Total Professional Fees	-	-	-	-
Total Cash Flow	\$ (245,586.44)	\$ 111,769.75	\$ 164,702.59	\$ 843,406.77

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	) Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
Debtor.	)

ORDER (I) APPROVING DEBTOR'S PROPOSED FORM OF ADEQUATE ASSURANCE OF PAYMENT FOR FUTURE UTILITY SERVICES, (II) APPROVING ADEQUATE ASSURANCE PROCEDURES, (III) PROHIBITING UTILITY PROVIDERS FROM ALTERING, REFUSING OR DISCONTINUING SERVICE, AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the motion (the "Motion") <sup>1</sup> of the Debtor for entry of an order (this "Order"): approving the Proposed Adequate Assurance of payment for future Utility Services; approving the Adequate Assurance Procedures for resolving Additional Assurance Requests; prohibiting Utility Providers from altering, refusing or discontinuing services; and granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and upon the First Day Declaration; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found it may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtor's estate, its creditors and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtor's notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing, if any, before this Court (the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

"Hearing"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing (if any) establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Debtor shall cause a copy of the Motion and this Order to be served on each Utility Provider listed on the Utility Services List no later than two business days after the date this Order is entered.
- 2. The Debtor's deposit of cash in a segregated account on the Debtor's books in an amount equal to two weeks average utility bills together with its ability to pay for future utility services in the ordinary course of business subject to the Adequate Assurance Procedures, shall constitute adequate assurance of future payment to the Utility Providers as required by Bankruptcy Code section 366.
  - 3. The following "Adequate Assurance Procedures" are hereby approved:
  - (i) Any Utility Provider desiring additional assurances of payment in the form of deposits, prepayments or otherwise must serve a request for additional assurance (an "Additional Assurance Request") on the Notice Parties. An Additional Assurance Request may be made at any time.
  - (ii) Any Additional Assurance Request must: (i) be in writing; (ii) identify the location for which the Utility Services are provided; (iii) summarize the Debtor's payment history relevant to the affected account(s), including any security deposits; and (iv) explain why the Utility Provider believes the Proposed Adequate Assurance is not sufficient adequate assurance of future payment.
  - (iii) Upon the Debtor's receipt of any Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor shall promptly negotiate with such Utility Provider to resolve such Utility Provider's Additional Assurance Request.
  - (iv) The Debtor may, without further order from the Court, resolve any Additional Assurance Request by mutual agreement with a Utility Provider, and the Debtor may, in connection with any such agreement, provide such Utility Provider with additional adequate assurance of payment, including, but not limited to, cash deposits, prepayments or other forms of security if the Debtor believes that such adequate assurance is reasonable in their business judgment,

- subject to the terms of any collateral or other financing order entered by the Court; provided, however, that the Debtor shall maintain a summary record of such agreements and their respective terms, and such summary record and the agreements themselves shall be available to any official committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases and the U.S. Trustee upon request.
- (v) If the Debtor and the Utility Provider are not able to reach an alternative resolution within 14 days of receipt of the Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor will request a hearing before the Court to determine the adequacy of assurances of payment with respect to a particular Utility Provider (the "Determination Hearing"), pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 366(c)(3). Pending resolution of any such Determination Hearing, the Utility Provider filing such Additional Assurance Request shall be prohibited from altering, refusing or discontinuing Utility Services to the Debtor on account of unpaid charges for prepetition services or on account of any objections to the Proposed Adequate Assurance.
- 4. If an amount relating to Utility Services provided postpetition by a Utility Provider is unpaid, and remains unpaid beyond any applicable grace period, such Utility Provider may request additional adequate assurance by following the Adequate Assurance Procedures and providing notice to: (i) the Debtor and its counsel and the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of Texas, 515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516, Houston, Texas 77002 (collectively, the "Notice Parties").
- 5. The Utility Providers are prohibited from requiring additional adequate assurance of payment other than pursuant to the Adequate Assurance Procedures.
- 6. Unless and until a Utility Provider files an objection or serves an Additional Assurance Request, such Utility Provider shall be: (i) deemed to have received adequate assurance of payment that is "satisfactory" to such Utility Provider in compliance with Bankruptcy Code section 366 and (ii) forbidden from (a) discontinuing, altering or refusing services to, or discriminating against, the Debtor on account of any unpaid prepetition charges, the commencement of these chapter 11 cases or any perceived inadequacy of the Proposed Adequate Assurance, and (b) requiring additional assurance of payment other than the Proposed Adequate Assurance.
  - 7. The Debtor is authorized, following a time period of 14 days afforded to (i) the

affected Utility Provider and (ii) counsel to Notice Parties to object, and the Debtor having received no objection from any such Utility Provider, to remove any Utility Provider from the Utility Services List. If an objection is received, the Debtor shall request a hearing before this Court at the next omnibus hearing date, or such other date that the Debtor and the Utility Provider may agree. The Debtor shall not deduct from the Adequate Assurance Deposit the amount set aside for any Utility Provider that the Debtor seeks to terminate or delete from the Utility Services List unless and until the 14-day notice period has passed and the Debtor has not received any objection to the termination or deletion of such Utility Provider from the Utility Services List, or until such objection has been resolved consensually or by order of the Court.

- 8. The Debtor is authorized to add any Utility Provider to the Utility Services List; provided that such amended Utility Services List shall be served on the Notice Parties. This Order shall be binding upon any subsequently-identified Utility Provider. To the extent the Debtor identifies additional Utility Providers, the Debtor will serve on such Utility Provider, within two business days, a copy this Order, including the Adequate Assurance Procedures, and provide such Utility Provider a time period of 14 days to object to the inclusion of such Utility Provider on the Utility Services List. If an objection is received, the Debtor shall request a hearing before this Court. In addition, the Debtor will provide an Adequate Assurance Deposit in an amount equal to the cost for services for 14 days based on historical average payments during the preceding 12 months for any Utility Provider added to the Utility Services List as set forth herein.
- 9. The inclusion of any entity in, as well as any omission of any entity from, the Utility Services List shall not be deemed an admission by the Debtor that such entity is, or is not, a "utility" within the meaning of Bankruptcy Code section 366, and the Debtor reserves all rights with respect thereto.
  - 10. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Order and any actions taken pursuant to

such relief, nothing in this Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for or validity of any claim against a Debtor entity under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtor's, or any other party in interest's, right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in the Motion or any order granting the relief requested by the Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt or reject any agreement, contract or lease pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 365; (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability or perfection of any lien on, security interest in or other encumbrance on property of the Debtor's estate; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtor's, or any other party in interest's, rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (h) a concession by the Debtor that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in the Motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity or perfection or to seek avoidance of all such liens.

- 11. Notwithstanding anything in this Order to the contrary, any payment to be made, or any authorization contained hereunder shall be subject to the terms of any orders authorizing use of cash collateral approved by this Court in the chapter 11 case.
- 12. The Adequate Assurance Procedures set forth herein are for all Utility Providers providing Utility Services to the Debtor and are not limited to those parties or entities listed on the Utility Services List.
  - 13. The contents of the Motion satisfy the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b).
- 14. Notice of the Motion satisfies the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a), and the Bankruptcy Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.
  - 15. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Order are

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immediately effective and enforceable upon entry. The Debtor is authorized to take all actions

necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Motion.

16. This Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or

related to the implementation, interpretation and enforcement of this Order.

Dated: August, 2022	
	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Debtor.	<b>§</b>	

# ORDER (A) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTOR TO PAY PREPETITION OBLIGATIONS OF CERTAIN CRITICAL VENDORS AND (B) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the *Debtor's Motion for Order (A) Authorizing the Debtor to Pay Prepetition Obligations of Certain Critical Vendors and (B) Granting Related Relief* (the "Motion")<sup>1</sup> filed on July 29, 2022; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the Motion and the relief requested therein pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and consideration of the Motion and the requested relief being a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and venue being proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and proper notice of the Motion having been provided, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

2. 1. The Debtor is authorized to pay in the ordinary course of its business to (a) pay the prepetition obligations owed to the Critical Vendors in the amounts set forth in <u>Schedule</u>

1 attached hereto as those obligations come due and shall consult with the Subchapter V Trustee and provide requested information with respect to each proposed payment in advance of remitting the same to Critical Vendors. Any party that accepts payments from the Debtor on account of a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used by not otherwise defined in this Order shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Motion.

Critical Vendor claim shall be deemed to have agreed to the terms and provisions of this order. The payment of the Obligations is conditioned upon the agreement of each Critical Vendor to continue supplying services on terms and based on practices and programs in effect between the Critical Vendor and the Debtor in the year prior to the Petition Date (the "Customary Trade Terms"), or such other trade terms as are agreed to by the Debtor and the Critical Vendor.

- 3. The Debtor shall have the right to negotiate new trade terms with the Critical Vendor as a condition to payment of a portion of the obligations owed to each Critical Vendor (the "Obligations").
- 4. Any payments made on Obligations pursuant to this Motion shall be applied first to any claim of such Critical Vendors under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code. Nothing in this Motion or any order of this Court approving this Motion should be construed as a waiver by the Debtor of its rights to contest any invoice of a Critical Vendor under applicable non-bankruptcy law.
- 5. If a Critical Vendor refuses to supply services to the Debtor on Customary Trade Terms following payment of any portion of the Obligations, the Debtor, in its discretion, and without further order of the Court, may deem any payments made to the Critical Vendor on account of the Obligations to have been in payment of then-outstanding post-petition claims of the Critical Vendor and to terminate the critical vendor status of such a vendor (the "Terminated Obligor").
- 6. In the event the Debtor chooses not to terminate the critical vendor status of a Critical Vendor immediately upon a refusal by a Critical Vendor to provide services in accordance with Customary Trade Terms, the Debtor shall not be deemed to have waived the ability to terminate a Critical Vendor or waived the ability to deem any payments made to the

Critical Vendor on account of the Obligations to have been in payment of then-outstanding postpetition claims of such Critical Vendor or to compel disgorgement of payments made to such Critical Vendor pursuant to this order.

- 7. In the event the Debtor exercises the rights set forth in the preceding paragraph, the Terminated Obligor shall be required to immediately return any payments made on account of its Obligations to the extent that such payments exceed the post-petition amounts then owed to the Terminated Obligor, without giving effect to any rights of setoff or reclamation. In the event that the Terminated Obligor refuses to acknowledge such recharacterization and to issue the repayment, the Debtor is authorized to compel such recharacterization and repayment by a motion on such notice as is required by this Court. In addition, the Debtor shall have the right to compel the disgorgement of the Critical Vendor payment repayment by a motion on such notice as is required by this Court.
- 8. The debtor shall maintain a matrix/schedule of amounts directly or indirectly paid, subject to the terms and conditions of this Order, including the following information: (a) the names of the payee; (b) the amount of the payment; (c) the category or type of payment, as further described and classified in the Motion; and (d) the payment date. On or before the date that is thirty (30) days from entry of this Order, the Debtor shall provide a copy of such matrix/schedule to the U.S. Trustee, the Subchapter V trustee appointed in this case, and any committee appointed in this Chapter 11 Case. Thereafter, the Debtor shall attach a copy of such matrix/schedule to its monthly operating reports filed in the Chapter 11 Case containing the same information set forth above. Parties in interest shall then have fourteen (14) calendar days to file written objections to Critical Third-Party Vendor status or any payment made by the Debtor pursuant to this Order. If the

objection is sustained, the Critical Third-Party Vendor may be required to disgorge any such payments.

- 9. Nothing in this Order or the Motion shall limit (a) the Debtor's authority to pay obligations to creditors that were incurred by the Debtor after the Petition Date.
- 10. Nothing in this Order or any actions taken pursuant to such relief is intended or shall be construed as (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against the Debtor under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law, (b) a waiver of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's right to dispute any claim on any ground, (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim, (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this motion or any order granting the relief requested in this motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim, (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtor's estate, (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law, or (h) a concession from the Debtor that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in this motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or seek avoidance of all such liens.
- 11. Any payment made pursuant to the Court's order is not intended and should not be construed as an admission as to the validity of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's rights to subsequently dispute such claim.

- 12. This Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry and shall not be stayed by Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), if applicable.
- 13. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, or enforcement of this Order.

Dated:	, 2022	
	UN	NITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

### SCHEDULE 1 TO ORDER

		Α	mount of Critical				
Vendor	Description		Vendor Claim	Address	City	State	Zip
Addshoppers, Inc	E Commerce Store	\$	2,191.93	222 S. Church Street #410M	Charlotte	NC	28202
Amazon Web Services	E Commerce Store	\$	77,000.00				
ATXHD,Inc	Satellite uplink	\$	19,334.48	602 S. Cowal Drive	Spicewood	TX	78669
Austin Security & Investigation Solution	Uniformed Security	\$	28,044.34	P.O. Box 2904	Pflugerville	TX	78691
Balcones Recycling Inc.	Trash / Dumpster Service	\$	386.99	P.O. Box 679912	Dallas	TX	75267
Cloudflare, Inc	IT / E Commerce Security	\$	124,162.64	Dept LA 24609	Pasadena	CA	91185-4609
eCommerce CDN LLC	E Commerce Store	\$	1,070.85	221 E 63rd Street	Savannah	GA	31405
Edgecast, Inc.	Radio Station Link	\$	6,449.30	Dept CH 18120	Palatine	IL	60055
Frost Insurance Agency	Company Insurance	\$	2,694.52	401 Congress Ave., 14th Floor	Austin	TX	78701
Getty Images, Inc	Licenses for Pictures / Video	\$	10,121.38	P.O. Box 953604	St. Louis	MO	63195-3604
Haivision Network Video	Streaming Bandwidth	\$	54,851.50	Dept CH 19848	Palatine	IL	60055-9848
Magento	E Commerce Store	\$	7,792.40	P.O. Box 204125	Dallas	TX	75320-4105
mongoDB Cloud	Cloud Storage	\$	3,054.44	1633 Broadway 39th Floor	New York	NY	10019
Protection 1 Alarm	Alarm Service	\$	3,461.42				
Synergy North America Inc	e commerce software	\$	2,061.49	11001 W. 120th Ave. Suite 400	Broomfield	СО	80021
The Hartford	Company Insurance	\$	2,780.35				
Travelers	Company Insurance	\$	673.48				
TrustArc		\$	1,221.46				
WMQM-AM 1600	Advertising	\$	2,291.67	21 Stephen Hill Rd	Atoka	TN	38004
WWCR	Advertising	\$	9,900.00	1300 WWCR Avenue	Nashville	TN	37218-3800
	Total Critical Vendors	\$	359,544.62				

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

ENTERED
August 05, 2022
Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

In re:	§	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC.,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	
Debtor.	§	

## INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR'S USE OF CASH COLLATERAL AND PROVIDING PARTIAL ADEQUATE PROTECTION

On July 29, 2022, the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "Debtor" or "FSS") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "Case"), filed its Emergency Motion for an Interim and Final Order (I) Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(b) and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Pre-Petition Secured Lender (the "Motion"). In the Motion, the Debtor requested, inter alia, entry of this interim order (this "Order") pursuant to Sections 105, 361, and 363 of title 11 of the United States Code,11 U.S.C. §§ 101, et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), and in accordance with Rules 2002, 4001, and 9014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), authorizing the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral (as hereinafter defined), as set forth herein. The Court, having considered the Motion, and having held an interim hearing on the Motion on August 3, 2022 (the "Interim Hearing"), and having considered the evidence presented or proffered and the statements and representations of the parties on the record at the Interim Hearing; and all objections, if any, to the entry of this Interim Order having been resolved by agreement or order of the Court or overruled; and after due deliberation and consideration and sufficient cause appearing therefor;

- 1. The Chapter 11 Case. On July 29, 2022 (the "Petition Date") the Debtor commenced the above captioned case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas (this "Court").
- 2. <u>Debtor-in-Possession</u>. The Debtor continues to operate its business and manage its property as debtor-in-possession pursuant to Section 1182(2) of the Bankruptcy Code. To date, no trustee or examiner

has been appointed in this Case. This Interim Order shall constitute findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7052.

- 3. <u>Jurisdiction and Venue</u>. This Court has jurisdiction over the Case, the Motion and the parties and property affected hereby pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(b) and 1334. Consideration of the Motion is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue of the Case and the Motion in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S. §§ 1408 and 1409. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 4001, and the Local Rules of this Court (the "<u>Local Rules</u>").
- 4. <u>Committee Formation</u>. To date, no official committee (a "<u>Committee</u>") of unsecured creditors, equity interest holders, or other parties in interest has been appointed in the Case.
- Notice. On July 29, 2022, the Debtor served copies of the Motion and notice of the Interim Hearing to all creditors and parties in interest entitled to such notice in compliance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002, 4001, 9014, and the Local Rules, including: (i) the Office of the United States Trustee for this District, (ii) those creditors holding the twenty (20) largest unsecured claims against the Debtor's estate, (iii) PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC Trust ("PQPR"), and (vi) any other secured parties of record. Under the circumstances, such notice of the Interim Hearing and the emergency relief requested in the Motion is due, proper, and sufficient notice and complies with Bankruptcy Rule 4001 and the Local Rules, and no other or further notice of the Interim Hearing or the relief granted in this Interim Order is necessary or required.
- 6. Immediate Need for Use of Cash Collateral. The Debtor asserts that an immediate and critical need exists for the Debtor to use the alleged cash collateral<sup>1</sup> of PQPR as set forth in the budget defined below (the "Cash Collateral") in order to continue the operation of its business. Without such use of Cash Collateral, the Debtor asserts that it will not be able to pay post-petition direct operating expenses and obtain goods and services needed to carry on its business in a manner that will avoid irreparable harm to the Debtor's estate. The Debtor further asserts that its ability to use Cash Collateral is necessary to preserve and maintain the going concern value of the Debtor's estate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As defined at 11 U.S.C. § 363(a).

- 7. <u>Conditional Consent to Use of Cash Collateral</u>. The Debtor seeks authorization to use Cash Collateral to pay the Debtor's ordinary and necessary operating expenses set forth in the budget attached to this Order as Exhibit A (the "<u>Budget</u>") for the period (the "<u>Interim Period</u>") from the Petition Date through and including August 26, 2022 (the "<u>Termination Date</u>"). The lender has agreed to the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral during the Interim Period exclusively in accordance with the terms, conditions, and limitations set forth in this Order and the Budget.
- 8. Good Cause/Fair and Reasonable Terms. The Debtor asserts that good cause has been shown for the entry of this Order. Among other things, entry of this Order will minimize disruption of the business and operations of the Debtor and permit the Debtor to maintain the going concern value of its business. The use of Cash Collateral authorized hereunder is necessary, essential, and appropriate and is in the best interest of, and will benefit, the Debtor, its creditors, and the Debtor's bankruptcy estate as it will, among other things, provide the Debtor with the necessary liquidity to (i) avoid immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor and its bankruptcy estate; and (ii) preserve and maximize the value of the Debtor's business and assets. The terms and conditions of the use of Cash Collateral and the security interests, liens, rights, and priorities granted to the lenders hereunder are fair and appropriate under the circumstances.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. Motion Granted. The Motion is hereby granted on an interim basis as set forth herein.
- 2. <u>Interim Order</u>. This Order shall be considered an interim cash collateral order and shall be binding upon all parties and upon all subsequently appointed court officers, including any trustee appointed in the Case under Chapter 7 or Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. <u>DIP Account</u>. The Debtor shall maintain debtor in possession ("<u>DIP</u>") accounts at Axos Bank which accounts shall contain all operating revenues and any other source of cash constituting Cash Collateral, which is (or has been) generated by and is attributable to the Debtor's business (the "<u>DIP Account"</u>). All cash generated by the Debtor or from the Debtor's business or assets, including any cash held in any of the Debtor's pre-petition bank accounts, shall be immediately transferred by the Debtor to the DIP Account. The Debtor

shall be prohibited from withdrawing or using Cash Collateral funds from the DIP Account except as provided for in the Budget, this Order, or pursuant to further order of the Court.

- 4. <u>Terms of Cash Collateral Use</u>. The Debtor is hereby authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay the items set forth in the Budget, and up to the respective aggregate amount of disbursements set forth in the Budget for any week during the Interim Period, subject to the Permitted Variance (as hereinafter defined). The Permitted Variance shall be defined as 10% per line item and 20% of the overall Budget. The Debtor shall not use, sell, or expend, directly or indirectly, the Cash Collateral except pursuant to the Budget and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Order.
- 5. No Payments to Insiders. Other than as provided for in the Budget, the Debtor shall not make any payment to or for the benefit of any insider of the Debtor, as that term is defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code. Payments to any insider during the Interim Period shall not exceed \$20,000 in the aggregate.
- 6. Payment to PQPR for Inventory Purchase. Notwithstanding the limitation on payments to insiders set forth in the preceding paragraph, the Debtor is authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay PQPR \$250,000 as provided in the Budget for "Repay PQPR Inventory" (the "PQPR Payment"). The PQPR Payment shall not be used to pay down the PQPR Notes (as defined in the Motion). Creditors and parties in interest shall have thirty (30) days from the date a notice is filed on the docket that the PQPR Payment has been issued to object to the appropriateness of that payment and file pleadings with the Court seeking to clawback the PQPR Payment.
- 7. <u>Further Authorization</u>. The Debtor is hereby authorized to enter into all agreements pursuant to the terms of this Order necessary to allow the Debtor to use Cash Collateral subject to the terms of this Order in the amounts and for the expenses set forth on the Budget. The Debtor is authorized to collect and receive all accounts receivable and other operating revenues and immediately deposit same in the DIP Account.
- 8. <u>Taxes</u>. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to grant PQPR (the "<u>Pre-Petition Lender</u>") liens which are senior to pre- and post-petition statutory ad valorem real property tax liens. The Debtor shall

remain current in all post-petition tax payments and reporting obligations, including, but not limited to, all ad valorem real property taxes and federal trust fund taxes.

- 9. Adequate Protection Replacement Liens. As adequate protection for any diminution in value of each of the Pre-Petition Lender's interest in the Debtor's collateral, if any, including Cash Collateral, resulting from the imposition of the automatic stay with respect to the Collateral and/or the Debtor's use, sale or lease of the Collateral during the Case (the "Diminution in Value"), the Pre-Petition Lender is hereby granted, effective as of the Petition Date, valid, binding, enforceable, and automatically perfected liens (the "Replacement Liens") in all currently owned or hereafter acquired property and assets of the Debtor, of any kind or nature, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, wherever located, now owned or hereafter acquired or arising (excluding avoidance or other causes of action arising under chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code), and all proceeds and products of the foregoing (collectively, the "Adequate Protection Collateral") to the same extent as existed on the Petition Date. The Replacement Liens granted pursuant to this Order shall be subject to the Carve Out.
- 10. <u>Carve Out.</u> The Replacement Liens and Adequate Protection Priority Claim granted herein shall be subject to (a) unpaid fees payable to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court or the United States Trustee; (b) subject to the Budget, court-approved administrative expense claims of estate professionals, employed pursuant to order of this Court (collectively, "<u>Estate Professionals</u>"), for incurred but unpaid fees, expenses and other costs; fees and expenses of the appointed Subchapter V Trustee (all such carve-out amounts referenced above, collectively, the "<u>Carve Out</u>").
- 11. <u>Subsequent Modification of Order.</u> If any or all of the provisions of this Order are hereafter modified, vacated or stayed, such modification, vacation or stay shall not affect the validity of any obligation, indebtedness or liability incurred by the Debtor from the Petition Date through the effective date of such modification, vacation or stay, or the validity or enforceability of any security interest, lien or priority authorized or created by this Order.

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12. <u>Reservation of Rights</u>. Nothing herein shall constitute a finding or ruling by this Court that

any alleged and disputed lien or alleged and disputed security interest held by the alleged Pre-Petition Lender

in respect of the purported PQPR Notes (as defined in the Motion) is valid, senior, enforceable, prior, perfected,

or nonavoidable. Moreover, nothing herein shall prejudice the rights of any party-in-interest, including but not

limited to the Debtor, the Subchapter V Trustee, any official committee appointed in the Chapter 11 Case or

any other creditor, to challenge the validity, priority, enforceability, seniority, avoidability, perfection, or extent

of any alleged and disputed lien or alleged and disputed security interest held by the alleged Pre-Petition Lender

in respect of the purported PQPR Notes.

13. Final Cash Collateral Hearing: A final hearing on the Motion shall be held before this Court

on August 24, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Central time.

Signed: August 05, 2022

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

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## **Forecasted Interim Cash Collateral Budget**

Between July 29, 2022 and August 26, 2022

Period	07/30/2022- 08/05/2022	08/06/2022- 08/12/2022	08/13/2022- 08/19/2022	08/20/2022- 08/26/2022
Week Nu	mber 1	2	3	4
Incomo				
Income	Ć FOE 490 01	¢ 505 490 01	¢ 505 480 01	¢ FOE 480 01
Product Sales	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01
Advertising Donations	- 2 1/1 2F	3,141.25	2 141 25	480,166.46
Total Income	3,141.25 <b>598,630.26</b>	598,630.26	3,141.25 <b>598,630.26</b>	3,141.25 <b>1,078,796.72</b>
Selling & Product Costs	330,030.20	330,030.20	330,030.20	1,070,750.72
_	(70 155 17)	(76 155 17)	(76 155 17)	/76 155 17)
Inventory Purchase Repay PQPR Inventory	(76,155.17)			(76,155.17)
Merchant Account Fees	- (26,797.01)	(250,000.00) (26,797.01)		- (26,797.01)
Shipping cost for drop ship orders	(7,911.81)			
Fulfillment Services	(95,278.24)			
Processor Fees	(23,819.56)			
eCommerce Store Maintenance	(27,270.00)		(23,013.30)	(23,013.30)
Texas Sales Tax	(5,337.87)		-	_
Total Cost of Goods Sold	(262,569.67)		(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)
Operating Expenses	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	, -,,	( -,,	( -,,
Advertising & Promotion				
Advertising & Promotion	(3,041.98)	_	_	_
Print Media	(3,000.00)		_	_
Radio Show Advertising	(11,500.00)		_	_
Total Advertising & Promotion	(17,541.98)		-	-
Computer/IT/IP Expense	(== ,= ==== = ,			
Internet & TV services	(2,082.90)	-	(1,608.39)	-
Software License Fees	(140.80)		-	-
Server Hosting Service	(28,595.13)	-	-	-
CDN Video Cloud Storage	(55,728.00)	-	-	-
Satellite Service	(137,282.93)	-	-	-
Imaging License Fee	(9,201.25)	-	-	-
Software & Apps	(5,000.00)	-	-	-
Website Hosting		-	(266.50)	-
Total Computer/IT/IP Expense	(238,031.01)	-	(1,874.89)	-
Insurance	(2,166.50)	-	-	-
Office & Administrative Expense				
Bank Fees & Service Charges	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)
Equipment Rental	(1,989.90)		-	-
Office Supplies/Printing/Copy	(2.10)			(2.10)
Business Meals	(280.46)			(280.46)
Total Office & Administrative Expense	e (2,318.36)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(328.46)
O to a made a to a				
Outsourced Services	-	-	-	-
Consulting Services	-	-	-	-
Utilities	(10,000,00)			
Utility Deposit Electricity	(10,000.00)		(5,107.63)	
HVAC	- (256.19)	-	(5,107.03)	-
CAM Charges	(20,364.16)			
Water & Sewer	(1,708.55)		_	_
Gas Service	(132.09)		_	_
Pest Control	(244.65)		-	-
Waste Management	(351.81)		-	_
Total Utilities	(33,057.46)		(5,107.63)	-
Occupancy	· , ,		.,	
Rent	(33,408.51)	_	-	-
Office Security	(31,111.90)		-	-
Repair & Maintenance - Building	(1,777.19)		-	-
Janitorial	(5,983.33)		-	-



Period	d+A5:E83 07/30/2022-	08/06/2022-	08/13/2022-	08/20/2022-
	08/05/2022	08/12/2022	08/19/2022	08/26/2022
Total Occupancy	(72,280.93	-	-	-
Supplies	(1,258.02	-	-	-
Telephone	(18,337.88	-	-	
Personnel Expenses				
Salaries & Wages - Base	(168,467.44	) -	(168,467.44)	-
Payroll Tax	(13,087.76	-	(13,087.76)	-
Alex Jones Salary	(10,000.00	-	(10,000.00)	-
<b>Total Personnel Expenses</b>	(191,555.20	) -	(191,555.20)	-
Travel				
Mileage/Parking/Tolls	(99.69	) (99.69)	(99.69)	(99.69)
Vehicle Leases		(1,470.56)	-	-
Total Travel Expenses	(99.69	) (1,570.25)	(99.69)	(99.69)
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	(576,647.03	) (1,898.71)	(198,965.88)	(428.15)
Non-Operating Expenses				
Payment on PQPR Note	(5,000.00	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
AMEX Payment	<u>-</u>	-	-	<u>-</u> _
Total Other Expenses	(5,000.00	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
Professional Fees				
CRO Fees	-	-	-	-
Financial Adviosr Fee	-	-	-	-
Shannon & Lee LLP	-	-	-	-
Ray Battaglia		-	-	-
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	-	-	-	-
Total Cash Flow	\$ (245,586.44	) \$ 111,769.75	\$ 164,702.59	\$ 843,406.77

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### ENTERED

August 05, 2022 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	) Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
Debtor.	) )

ORDER (I) APPROVING DEBTOR'S PROPOSED FORM OF ADEQUATE ASSURANCE OF PAYMENT FOR FUTURE UTILITY SERVICES, (II) APPROVING ADEQUATE ASSURANCE PROCEDURES, (III) PROHIBITING UTILITY PROVIDERS FROM ALTERING, REFUSING OR DISCONTINUING SERVICE, AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the motion (the "Motion") 1 of the Debtor for entry of an order (this "Order"): approving the Proposed Adequate Assurance of payment for future Utility Services; approving the Adequate Assurance Procedures for resolving Additional Assurance Requests; prohibiting Utility Providers from altering, refusing or discontinuing services; and granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and approach the Kinak Daya Der Karakina; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found it may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtor's estate, its creditors and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtor's notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing, xifxxxxxx before this Court (the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

"Hearing"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing (xixxxx) establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Debtor shall cause a copy of the Motion and this Order to be served on each Utility Provider listed on the Utility Services List no later than two business days after the date this Order is entered.
- 2. The Debtor's deposit of cash in a segregated account on the Debtor's books in an amount equal to two weeks average utility bills together with its ability to pay for future utility services in the ordinary course of business subject to the Adequate Assurance Procedures, shall constitute adequate assurance of future payment to the Utility Providers as required by Bankruptcy Code section 366.
  - 3. The following "Adequate Assurance Procedures" are hereby approved:
  - (i) Any Utility Provider desiring additional assurances of payment in the form of deposits, prepayments or otherwise must serve a request for additional assurance (an "Additional Assurance Request") on the Notice Parties. An Additional Assurance Request may be made at any time.
  - (ii) Any Additional Assurance Request must: (i) be in writing; (ii) identify the location for which the Utility Services are provided; (iii) summarize the Debtor's payment history relevant to the affected account(s), including any security deposits; and (iv) explain why the Utility Provider believes the Proposed Adequate Assurance is not sufficient adequate assurance of future payment.
  - (iii) Upon the Debtor's receipt of any Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor shall promptly negotiate with such Utility Provider to resolve such Utility Provider's Additional Assurance Request.
  - (iv) The Debtor may, without further order from the Court, resolve any Additional Assurance Request by mutual agreement with a Utility Provider, and the Debtor may, in connection with any such agreement, provide such Utility Provider with additional adequate assurance of payment, including, but not limited to, cash deposits, prepayments or other forms of security if the Debtor believes that such adequate assurance is reasonable in their business judgment,

- subject to the terms of any collateral or other financing order entered by the Court; provided, however, that the Debtor shall maintain a summary record of such agreements and their respective terms, and such summary record and the agreements themselves shall be available to any official committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases and the U.S. Trustee upon request.
- (v) If the Debtor and the Utility Provider are not able to reach an alternative resolution within 14 days of receipt of the Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor will request a hearing before the Court to determine the adequacy of assurances of payment with respect to a particular Utility Provider (the "Determination Hearing"), pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 366(c)(3). Pending resolution of any such Determination Hearing, the Utility Provider filing such Additional Assurance Request shall be prohibited from altering, refusing or discontinuing Utility Services to the Debtor on account of unpaid charges for prepetition services or on account of any objections to the Proposed Adequate Assurance.
- 4. If an amount relating to Utility Services provided postpetition by a Utility Provider is unpaid, and remains unpaid beyond any applicable grace period, such Utility Provider may request additional adequate assurance by following the Adequate Assurance Procedures and providing notice to: (i) the *Debtor's counsel* and *(ii)* the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of Texas, 515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516, Houston, Texas 77002 (collectively, the "Notice Parties").
- 5. The Utility Providers are prohibited from requiring additional adequate assurance of payment other than pursuant to the Adequate Assurance Procedures.
- 6. Unless and until a Utility Provider files an objection or serves an Additional Assurance Request, such Utility Provider shall be: (i) deemed to have received adequate assurance of payment that is "satisfactory" to such Utility Provider in compliance with Bankruptcy Code section 366 and (ii) forbidden from (a) discontinuing, altering or refusing services to, or discriminating against, the Debtor on account of any unpaid prepetition charges, the commencement of these chapter 11 cases or any perceived inadequacy of the Proposed Adequate Assurance, and (b) requiring additional assurance of payment other than the Proposed Adequate Assurance.
  - 7. The Debtor is authorized, following a time period of 14 days afforded to (i) the

affected Utility Provider and (ii) counsel to Notice Parties to object, and the Debtor having received no objection from any such Utility Provider, to remove any Utility Provider from the Utility Services List. If an objection is received, the Debtor shall request a hearing before this Court at the next omnibus hearing date, or such other date that the Debtor and the Utility Provider may agree. The Debtor shall not deduct from the Adequate Assurance Deposit the amount set aside for any Utility Provider that the Debtor seeks to terminate or delete from the Utility Services List unless and until the 14-day notice period has passed and the Debtor has not received any objection to the termination or deletion of such Utility Provider from the Utility Services List, or until such objection has been resolved consensually or by order of the Court.

- 8. The Debtor is authorized to add any Utility Provider to the Utility Services List; provided that such amended Utility Services List shall be served on the Notice Parties. This Order shall be binding upon any subsequently-identified Utility Provider. To the extent the Debtor identifies additional Utility Providers, the Debtor will serve on such Utility Provider, within two business days, a copy this Order, including the Adequate Assurance Procedures, and provide such Utility Provider a time period of 14 days to object to the inclusion of such Utility Provider on the Utility Services List. If an objection is received, the Debtor shall request a hearing before this Court. In addition, the Debtor will provide an Adequate Assurance Deposit in an amount equal to the cost for services for 14 days based on historical average payments during the preceding 12 months for any Utility Provider added to the Utility Services List as set forth herein.
- 9. The inclusion of any entity in, as well as any omission of any entity from, the Utility Services List shall not be deemed an admission by the Debtor that such entity is, or is not, a "utility" within the meaning of Bankruptcy Code section 366, and the Debtor reserves all rights with respect thereto.
  - 10. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Order and any actions taken pursuant to

such relief, nothing in this Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for or validity of any claim against a Debtor entity under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtor's, or any other party in interest's, right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in the Motion or any order granting the relief requested by the Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt or reject any agreement, contract or lease pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 365; (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability or perfection of any lien on, security interest in or other encumbrance on property of the Debtor's estate; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtor's, or any other party in interest's, rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (h) a concession by the Debtor that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in the Motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity or perfection or to seek avoidance of all such liens.

- 11. Notwithstanding anything in this Order to the contrary, any payment to be made, or any authorization contained hereunder shall be subject to the terms of any orders authorizing use of cash collateral approved by this Court in the chapter 11 case.
- 12. The Adequate Assurance Procedures set forth herein are for all Utility Providers providing Utility Services to the Debtor and are not limited to those parties or entities listed on the Utility Services List.
  - 13. The contents of the Motion satisfy the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b).
- 14. Notice of the Motion satisfies the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a), and the Bankruptcy Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.
  - 15. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Order are

immediately effective and enforceable upon entry. The Debtor is authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Motion.

16. This Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation and enforcement of this Order.

Signed: August 05, 2022

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### **ENTERED**

August 05, 2022 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	- '
Debtor.	§	

## ORDER (A) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTOR TO PAY PREPETITION OBLIGATIONS OF CERTAIN CRITICAL VENDORS AND (B) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the *Debtor's Motion for Order (A) Authorizing the Debtor to Pay Prepetition Obligations of Certain Critical Vendors and (B) Granting Related Relief* (the "Motion")<sup>1</sup> filed on July 29, 2022; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the Motion and the relief requested therein pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and consideration of the Motion and the requested relief being a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and venue being proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and proper notice of the Motion having been provided, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

2. 1. The Debtor is authorized to pay in the ordinary course of its business to (a) pay the prepetition obligations owed to the Critical Vendors in the amounts set forth in <u>Schedule</u>

1 attached hereto as those obligations come due and shall consult with the Subchapter V Trustee and provide requested information with respect to each proposed payment in advance of remitting the same to Critical Vendors. Any party that accepts payments from the Debtor on account of a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used by not otherwise defined in this Order shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Motion.

Critical Vendor claim shall be deemed to have agreed to the terms and provisions of this order. The payment of the Obligations is conditioned upon the agreement of each Critical Vendor to continue supplying services on terms and based on practices and programs in effect between the Critical Vendor and the Debtor in the year prior to the Petition Date (the "Customary Trade Terms"), or such other trade terms as are agreed to by the Debtor and the Critical Vendor.

- 3. The Debtor shall have the right to negotiate new trade terms with the Critical Vendor as a condition to payment of a portion of the obligations owed to each Critical Vendor (the "Obligations").
- 4. Any payments made on Obligations pursuant to this Motion shall be applied first to any claim of such Critical Vendors under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code. Nothing in this Motion or any order of this Court approving this Motion should be construed as a waiver by the Debtor of its rights to contest any invoice of a Critical Vendor under applicable non-bankruptcy law.
- 5. If a Critical Vendor refuses to supply services to the Debtor on Customary Trade Terms following payment of any portion of the Obligations, the Debtor, in its discretion, and without further order of the Court, may deem any payments made to the Critical Vendor on account of the Obligations to have been in payment of then-outstanding post-petition claims of the Critical Vendor and to terminate the critical vendor status of such a vendor (the "Terminated Obligor").
- 6. In the event the Debtor chooses not to terminate the critical vendor status of a Critical Vendor immediately upon a refusal by a Critical Vendor to provide services in accordance with Customary Trade Terms, the Debtor shall not be deemed to have waived the ability to terminate a Critical Vendor or waived the ability to deem any payments made to the

Critical Vendor on account of the Obligations to have been in payment of then-outstanding postpetition claims of such Critical Vendor or to compel disgorgement of payments made to such Critical Vendor pursuant to this order.

- 7. In the event the Debtor exercises the rights set forth in the preceding paragraph, the Terminated Obligor shall be required to immediately return any payments made on account of its Obligations to the extent that such payments exceed the post-petition amounts then owed to the Terminated Obligor, without giving effect to any rights of setoff or reclamation. In the event that the Terminated Obligor refuses to acknowledge such recharacterization and to issue the repayment, the Debtor is authorized to compel such recharacterization and repayment by a motion on such notice as is required by this Court. In addition, the Debtor shall have the right to compel the disgorgement of the Critical Vendor payment repayment by a motion on such notice as is required by this Court.
- 8. The Debtor shall maintain a matrix/schedule of amounts directly or indirectly paid, subject to the terms and conditions of this Order, including the following information: (a) the names of the payee; (b) the amount of the payment; (c) the category or type of payment, as further described and classified in the Motion; and (d) the payment date. On or before the date that is thirty (30) days from entry of this Order, the Debtor shall provide a copy of such matrix/schedule to the U.S. Trustee, the Subchapter V trustee appointed in this case, and any committee appointed in this Chapter 11 Case. Thereafter, the Debtor shall attach a copy of such matrix/schedule to its monthly operating reports filed in the Chapter 11 Case containing the same information set forth above. Parties in interest shall then have fourteen (14) calendar days to file written objections to Critical Third-Party Vendor status or any payment made by the Debtor pursuant to this Order. If the

objection is sustained, the Critical Third-Party Vendor may be required to disgorge any such payments.

- 9. Nothing in this Order or the Motion shall limit (x) the Debtor's authority to pay obligations to creditors that were incurred by the Debtor after the Petition Date.
- 10. Nothing in this Order or any actions taken pursuant to such relief is intended or shall be construed as (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against the Debtor under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law, (b) a waiver of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's right to dispute any claim on any ground, (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim, (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this motion or any order granting the relief requested in this motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim, (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtor's estate, (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law, or (h) a concession from the Debtor that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in this motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or seek avoidance of all such liens.
- 11. Any payment made pursuant to the Court's order is not intended and should not be construed as an admission as to the validity of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's rights to subsequently dispute such claim.

- 12. This Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry and shall not be stayed by Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), if applicable.
- 13. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, or enforcement of this Order.

Signed: August 05, 2022

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

### SCHEDULE 1 TO ORDER

		Α	mount of Critical				
Vendor	Description		Vendor Claim	Address	City	State	Zip
Addshoppers, Inc	E Commerce Store	\$	2,191.93	222 S. Church Street #410M	Charlotte	NC	28202
Amazon Web Services	E Commerce Store	\$	77,000.00				
ATXHD,Inc	Satellite uplink	\$	19,334.48	602 S. Cowal Drive	Spicewood	TX	78669
Austin Security & Investigation Solution	Uniformed Security	\$	28,044.34	P.O. Box 2904	Pflugerville	TX	78691
Balcones Recycling Inc.	Trash / Dumpster Service	\$	386.99	P.O. Box 679912	Dallas	TX	75267
Cloudflare, Inc	IT / E Commerce Security	\$	124,162.64	Dept LA 24609	Pasadena	CA	91185-4609
eCommerce CDN LLC	E Commerce Store	\$	1,070.85	221 E 63rd Street	Savannah	GA	31405
Edgecast, Inc.	Radio Station Link	\$	6,449.30	Dept CH 18120	Palatine	IL	60055
Frost Insurance Agency	Company Insurance	\$	2,694.52	401 Congress Ave., 14th Floor	Austin	TX	78701
Getty Images, Inc	Licenses for Pictures / Video	\$	10,121.38	P.O. Box 953604	St. Louis	MO	63195-3604
Haivision Network Video	Streaming Bandwidth	\$	54,851.50	Dept CH 19848	Palatine	IL	60055-9848
Magento	E Commerce Store	\$	7,792.40	P.O. Box 204125	Dallas	TX	75320-4105
mongoDB Cloud	Cloud Storage	\$	3,054.44	1633 Broadway 39th Floor	New York	NY	10019
Protection 1 Alarm	Alarm Service	\$	3,461.42				
Synergy North America Inc	e commerce software	\$	2,061.49	11001 W. 120th Ave. Suite 400	Broomfield	СО	80021
The Hartford	Company Insurance	\$	2,780.35				
Travelers	Company Insurance	\$	673.48				
TrustArc		\$	1,221.46				
WMQM-AM 1600	Advertising	\$	2,291.67	21 Stephen Hill Rd	Atoka	TN	38004
WWCR	Advertising	\$	9,900.00	1300 WWCR Avenue	Nashville	TN	37218-3800
	Total Critical Vendors	\$	359,544.62				

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

ENTERED
August 05, 2022
Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

In re:	§	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC.,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	
Debtor.	§	

## INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR'S USE OF CASH COLLATERAL AND PROVIDING PARTIAL ADEQUATE PROTECTION

On July 29, 2022, the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "Debtor" or "FSS") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "Case"), filed its Emergency Motion for an Interim and Final Order (I) Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(b) and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Pre-Petition Secured Lender (the "Motion"). In the Motion, the Debtor requested, inter alia, entry of this interim order (this "Order") pursuant to Sections 105, 361, and 363 of title 11 of the United States Code,11 U.S.C. §§ 101, et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), and in accordance with Rules 2002, 4001, and 9014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), authorizing the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral (as hereinafter defined), as set forth herein. The Court, having considered the Motion, and having held an interim hearing on the Motion on August 3, 2022 (the "Interim Hearing"), and having considered the evidence presented or proffered and the statements and representations of the parties on the record at the Interim Hearing; and all objections, if any, to the entry of this Interim Order having been resolved by agreement or order of the Court or overruled; and after due deliberation and consideration and sufficient cause appearing therefor;

- 1. The Chapter 11 Case. On July 29, 2022 (the "Petition Date") the Debtor commenced the above captioned case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas (this "Court"). Southern
- 2. <u>Debtor-in-Possession</u>. The Debtor continues to operate its business and manage its property as debtor-in-possession pursuant to Section 1182(2) of the Bankruptcy Code. To date, no trustee or examiner

has been appointed in this Case. This Interim Order shall constitute findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7052.

- 3. <u>Jurisdiction and Venue</u>. This Court has jurisdiction over the Case, the Motion and the parties and property affected hereby pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(b) and 1334. Consideration of the Motion is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue of the Case and the Motion in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S. §§ 1408 and 1409. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 4001, and the Local Rules of this Court (the "<u>Local Rules</u>").
- 4. <u>Committee Formation</u>. To date, no official committee (a "<u>Committee</u>") of unsecured creditors, equity interest holders, or other parties in interest has been appointed in the Case.
- 5. Notice. On July 29, 2022, the Debtor served copies of the Motion and notice of the Interim Hearing to all creditors and parties in interest entitled to such notice in compliance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002, 4001, 9014, and the Local Rules, including: (i) the Office of the United States Trustee for this District, (ii) those creditors holding the twenty (20) largest unsecured claims against the Debtor's estate, (iii) PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC Trust ("PQPR"), and (vi) any other secured parties of record. Under the circumstances, such notice of the Interim Hearing and the emergency relief requested in the Motion is due, proper, and sufficient notice and complies with Bankruptcy Rule 4001 and the Local Rules, and no other or further notice of the Interim Hearing or the relief granted in this Interim Order is necessary or required.
- 6. <u>Immediate Need for Use of Cash Collateral</u>. The Debtor asserts that an immediate and critical need exists for the Debtor to use the alleged cash collateral<sup>1</sup> of PQPR as set forth in the budget defined below (the "<u>Cash Collateral</u>") in order to continue the operation of its business. Without such use of Cash Collateral, the Debtor asserts that it will not be able to pay post-petition direct operating expenses and obtain goods and services needed to carry on its business in a manner that will avoid irreparable harm to the Debtor's estate. The Debtor further asserts that its ability to use Cash Collateral is necessary to preserve and maintain the going concern value of the Debtor's estate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As defined at 11 U.S.C. § 363(a).

- 7. <u>Conditional Consent to Use of Cash Collateral</u>. The Debtor seeks authorization to use Cash Collateral to pay the Debtor's ordinary and necessary operating expenses set forth in the budget attached to this Order as Exhibit A (the "<u>Budget</u>") for the period (the "<u>Interim Period</u>") from the Petition Date through and including August 26, 2022 (the "<u>Termination Date</u>"). The lender has agreed to the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral during the Interim Period exclusively in accordance with the terms, conditions, and limitations set forth in this Order and the Budget.
- 8. <u>Good Cause/Fair and Reasonable Terms</u>. The Debtor asserts that good cause has been shown for the entry of this Order. Among other things, entry of this Order will minimize disruption of the business and operations of the Debtor and permit the Debtor to maintain the going concern value of its business. The use of Cash Collateral authorized hereunder is necessary, essential, and appropriate and is in the best interest of, and will benefit, the Debtor, its creditors, and the Debtor's bankruptcy estate as it will, among other things, provide the Debtor with the necessary liquidity to (i) avoid immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor and its bankruptcy estate; and (ii) preserve and maximize the value of the Debtor's business and assets. The terms and conditions of the use of Cash Collateral and the security interests, liens, rights, and priorities granted to the lenders hereunder are fair and appropriate under the circumstances.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. Motion Granted. The Motion is hereby granted on an interim basis as set forth herein.
- 2. <u>Interim Order</u>. This Order shall be considered an interim cash collateral order and shall be binding upon all parties and upon all subsequently appointed court officers, including any trustee appointed in the Case under Chapter 7 or Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. <u>DIP Account</u>. The Debtor shall maintain debtor in possession ("<u>DIP</u>") accounts at Axos Bank which accounts shall contain all operating revenues and any other source of cash constituting Cash Collateral, which is (or has been) generated by and is attributable to the Debtor's business (the "<u>DIP Account</u>"). All cash generated by the Debtor or from the Debtor's business or assets, including any cash held in any of the Debtor's pre-petition bank accounts, shall be immediately transferred by the Debtor to the DIP Account. The Debtor

shall be prohibited from withdrawing or using Cash Collateral funds from the DIP Account except as provided for in the Budget, this Order, or pursuant to further order of the Court.

- 4. Terms of Cash Collateral Use. The Debtor is hereby authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay the items set forth in the Budget, and up to the respective aggregate amount of disbursements set forth in the Budget for any week during the Interim Period, subject to the Permitted Variance (as hereinafter defined). The Permitted Variance shall be defined as 10% per line item and 20% of the overall Budget. The Debtor shall not use, sell, or expend, directly or indirectly, the Cash Collateral except pursuant to the Budget and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Order.
- 5. No Payments to Insiders. Other than as provided for in the Budget, the Debtor shall not make any payment to or for the benefit of any insider of the Debtor, as that term is defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code. Payments to any insider during the Interim Period shall not exceed \$20,000 in the aggregate.
- 6. Payment to PQPR for Inventory Purchase. Notwithstanding the limitation on payments to insiders set forth in the preceding paragraph, the Debtor is authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay PQPR \$250,000 as provided in the Budget for "Repay PQPR Inventory" (the "PQPR Payment"). The PQPR Payment shall not be used to pay down the PQPR Notes (as defined in the Motion). Creditors and parties in interest shall have thirty (30) days from the date a notice is filed on the docket that the PQPR Payment has been issued to object to the appropriateness of that payment and file pleadings with the Court seeking to clawback the PQPR Payment.
- 7. <u>Further Authorization</u>. The Debtor is hereby authorized to enter into all agreements pursuant to the terms of this Order necessary to allow the Debtor to use Cash Collateral subject to the terms of this Order in the amounts and for the expenses set forth on the Budget. The Debtor is authorized to collect and receive all accounts receivable and other operating revenues and immediately deposit same in the DIP Account.
- 8. <u>Taxes</u>. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to grant PQPR (the "<u>Pre-Petition Lender</u>") liens which are senior to pre- and post-petition statutory ad valorem real property tax liens. The Debtor shall

remain current in all post-petition tax payments and reporting obligations, including, but not limited to, all ad valorem real property taxes and federal trust fund taxes.

- 9. Adequate Protection Replacement Liens. As adequate protection for any diminution in value of each of the Pre-Petition Lender's interest in the Debtor's collateral, if any, including Cash Collateral, resulting from the imposition of the automatic stay with respect to the Collateral and/or the Debtor's use, sale or lease of the Collateral during the Case (the "Diminution in Value"), the Pre-Petition Lender is hereby granted, effective as of the Petition Date, valid, binding, enforceable, and automatically perfected liens (the "Replacement Liens") in all currently owned or hereafter acquired property and assets of the Debtor, of any kind or nature, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, wherever located, now owned or hereafter acquired or arising (excluding avoidance or other causes of action arising under chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code), and all proceeds and products of the foregoing (collectively, the "Adequate Protection Collateral") to the same extent as existed on the Petition Date. The Replacement Liens granted pursuant to this Order shall be subject to the Carve Out.
- 10. <u>Carve Out</u>. The Replacement Liens and Adequate Protection Priority Claim granted herein shall be subject to (a) unpaid fees payable to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court or the United States Trustee; (b) subject to the Budget, court-approved administrative expense claims of estate professionals, employed pursuant to order of this Court (collectively, "<u>Estate Professionals</u>"), for incurred but unpaid fees, expenses and other costs; fees and expenses of the appointed Subchapter V Trustee (all such carve-out amounts referenced above, collectively, the "Carve Out").
- 11. <u>Subsequent Modification of Order</u>. If any or all of the provisions of this Order are hereafter modified, vacated or stayed, such modification, vacation or stay shall not affect the validity of any obligation, indebtedness or liability incurred by the Debtor from the Petition Date through the effective date of such modification, vacation or stay, or the validity or enforceability of any security interest, lien or priority authorized or created by this Order.

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12. Reservation of Rights. Nothing herein shall constitute a finding or ruling by this Court that

any alleged and disputed lien or alleged and disputed security interest held by the alleged Pre-Petition Lender

in respect of the purported PQPR Notes (as defined in the Motion) is valid, senior, enforceable, prior, perfected,

or nonavoidable. Moreover, nothing herein shall prejudice the rights of any party-in-interest, including but not

limited to the Debtor, the Subchapter V Trustee, any official committee appointed in the Chapter 11 Case or

any other creditor, to challenge the validity, priority, enforceability, seniority, avoidability, perfection, or extent

of any alleged and disputed lien or alleged and disputed security interest held by the alleged Pre-Petition Lender

in respect of the purported PQPR Notes.

13. Final Cash Collateral Hearing: A final hearing on the Motion shall be held before this Court

on August 24, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Central time.

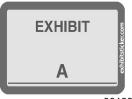
Signed: August 05, 2022

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

Between July 29, 2022 and August 26, 2022

Income Product Sales Advertising Donations Fotal Income Selling & Product Costs Inventory Purchase Repay PQPR Inventory Merchant Account Fees Shipping cost for drop ship orders Fulfillment Services Processor Fees Processor Fees Processor Fees Commerce Store Maintenance Fexas Sales Tax Fotal Cost of Goods Sold Operating Expenses Advertising & Promotion Advertising & Promotion Print Media	\$ 595,489.01 - 3,141.25 598,630.26 (76,155.17) - (26,797.01) (7,911.81) (95,278.24) (23,819.56) (27,270.00) (5,337.87) (262,569.67)	(250,000.00) (26,797.01) (7,911.81) (95,278.24) (23,819.56)	(26,797.01) (7,911.81) (95,278.24) (23,819.56)	(7,911.81 (95,278.24
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eCommerce Store Maintenance Fexas Sales Tax Fotal Cost of Goods Sold Operating Expenses Advertising & Promotion Advertising & Promotion	(23,819.56) (27,270.00) (5,337.87) (262,569.67)	(23,819.56) - -	(23,819.56) - -	(23,819.56
Fexas Sales Tax  Fotal Cost of Goods Sold  Operating Expenses  Advertising & Promotion  Advertising & Promotion	(27,270.00) (5,337.87) (262,569.67) (3,041.98)	-	- =	-
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Operating Expenses Advertising & Promotion Advertising & Promotion	(262,569.67)		(229,961.80)	(229,961.80
Advertising & Promotion Advertising & Promotion				•
Advertising & Promotion Advertising & Promotion				
Advertising & Promotion				
•		_	_	_
	(3,000.00)			
Radio Show Advertising	(11,500.00)		_	_
Fotal Advertising & Promotion	(17,541.98)			
Computer/IT/IP Expense	(17,341.30)	-	_	·-
nternet & TV services	(2,082.90)		(1,608.39)	
Software License Fees	(140.80)		(1,008.33)	_
			-	_
Server Hosting Service CDN Video Cloud Storage	(28,595.13) (55,728.00)		-	-
Satellite Service			-	-
	(137,282.93)		-	-
maging License Fee Software & Apps	(9,201.25) (5,000.00)		-	-
Website Hosting	(3,000.00)	-	(266.50)	<del>-</del>
Fotal Computer/IT/IP Expense	(238,031.01)		(1,874.89)	-
nsurance	(2,166.50)		(1,674.63)	-
	(2,100.50)	-	=	-
Office & Administrative Expense Bank Fees & Service Charges	(45.90)	(4E 00)	(AE 00)	(AE 00
Equipment Rental		(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90
	(1,989.90)	- (2.10)	(2.10)	(2.10
Office Supplies/Printing/Copy Business Meals	(2.10)			
ousiness ivieals  Fotal Office & Administrative Expense	(280.46) ( <b>2,318.36</b> )			(280.46 (328.46
otal Office & Administrative Expense	(2,318.30)	(328.40)	(328.40)	(328.40
Dutsourced Services	_	_	_	_
Consulting Services	_	_		_
Jtilities				
Jtility Deposit	(10,000.00)			
Electricity	(10,000.00)	-	(5,107.63)	_
HVAC	(256.19)	_	(3,107.03)	_
CAM Charges	(20,364.16)		-	-
Nater & Sewer	(1,708.55)		-	_
Gas Service	(132.09)		_	
Pest Control	(244.65)		-	-
Waste Management	(351.81)		-	-
Fotal Utilities			(5,107.63)	
	(33,057.46)	-	(5,107.63)	-
Occupancy	(22 ADO E4)			
Rent Office Security	(33,408.51)		5	1-
Office Security	(31,111.90)		-	-
Repair & Maintenance - Building Ianitorial	(1,777.19) (5,983.33)		-	_



	Period+A5:E83	* . * .	08/06/2022-	08/13/2022-	08/20/2022-
Total Common au		08/05/2022	08/12/2022	08/19/2022	08/26/2022
Total Occupancy		(72,280.93)		-	-
Supplies		(1,258.02)		-	-
Telephone		(18,337.88)	-	-	
Personnel Expenses					
Salaries & Wages - Bas	e	(168,467.44)		(168,467.44)	
Payroll Tax		(13,087.76)	-	(13,087.76)	-
Alex Jones Salary		(10,000.00)	-	(10,000.00)	-
Total Personnel Expen	ses	(191,555.20)	-	(191,555.20)	-
Travel					
Mileage/Parking/Tolls		(99.69)	(99.69)	(99.69)	(99.69)
Vehicle Leases		-	(1,470.56)	-	-
<b>Total Travel Expenses</b>		(99.69)	(1,570.25)	(99.69)	(99.69)
<b>Total Operating Expen</b>	ses	(576,647.03)	(1,898.71)	(198,965.88)	(428.15)
Non-Operating Expens	ses				
Payment on PQPR Not	е	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
AMEX Payment		-	-	-	-
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>		(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
Professional Fees					
CRO Fees		-	-	-	-
Financial Adviosr Fee		-	-	-	-
Shannon & Lee LLP		-	-	-	-
Ray Battaglia		-	-	-	-
Total Professional Fee	s	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Cash Flow</b>		\$ (245,586.44)	\$ 111,769.75	\$ 164,702.59	\$ 843,406.77

#### Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 69 of 262

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

Case No. 22-60043-cml In re: Free Speech Systems LLC Chapter 11

Debtor

#### CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

District/off: 0541-4 User: ADIuser Page 1 of 2 Date Rcvd: Aug 05, 2022 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 8

The following symbols are used throughout this certificate:

Symbol Definition

- Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP, adding the last four digits to complete the zip +4, or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS
  - regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.
- Addresses marked '^' were sent via mandatory electronic bankruptcy noticing pursuant to Fed. R. Bank. P. 9036.

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Aug 07, 2022:

Recip ID		Recipient Name and Address
db	+	Free Speech Systems LLC, 3019 Alvin Devane Blvd. STE 300, Austin, TX 78741-7417
cr	+	David Wheeler, et al., c/o Cain & Skarnulis PLLC, 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850, Austin, TX 78701-4653
cr	+	Leonard Pozner, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Marcel Fontaine, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Neil Heslin, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Scarlett Lewis, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Veronique De La Rosa, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774

TOTAL: 7

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.

Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI). Electronic transmission is in Eastern

Recip ID Notice Type: Email Address Date/Time Recipient Name and Address Aug 05 2022 19:44:28 Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Revenue

Acco, Christopher J. Dylla, P.O. Box 12548, Austin, TX 78711-2548

TOTAL: 1

#### BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, \*duplicate of an address listed above, \*P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

Bypass Reason Name and Address Recip ID Shelby A Jordan intp

TOTAL: 1 Undeliverable, 0 Duplicate, 0 Out of date forwarding address

#### NOTICE CERTIFICATION

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Aug 07, 2022	Signature:	/s/Gustava Winters	

District/off: 0541-4 User: ADIuser Page 2 of 2 Date Rcvd: Aug 05, 2022 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 8

#### CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on August 5, 2022 at the address(es) listed

Name **Email Address** 

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Christopher Dylla

on behalf of Creditor Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Revenue Accounting Division bk-cdylla@oag.texas.gov,

Sherri.Simpson@oag.texas.gov

Ha Minh Nguyen

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jayson B. Ruff

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov

Melissa A Haselden

mhaselden@haseldenfarrow.com

haseldenbankruptcytrustee@gmail.com;mhaselden@ecf.axosfs.com;haselden.melissaa.r104367@notify.bestcase.com

R. J. Shannon

on behalf of Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC rshannon@shannonpllc.com rshannon@shannonleellp.com;7044075420@filings.docketbird.com

Randy W Williams

on behalf of Creditor David Wheeler et al. rww@bymanlaw.com,

rw13 @ trustesolutions.com; rw13 @ trustesolutions.net; rw11 @ trustesolutions.net; rww.trustee1 @ gmail.com; rw13 @ trustesolutions.net; rww.trustee1 & gmail.com; rw13 & g

Raymond William Battaglia

on behalf of Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC rbattaglialaw@outlook.com rwbresolve@gmail.com

Ryan E Chapple

on behalf of Creditor David Wheeler et al. rchapple@cstrial.com, aprentice@cstrial.com

Shelby A Jordan

on behalf of Interested Party Shelby A Jordan cmadden@jhwclaw.com

US Trustee

USTPRegion07.HU.ECF@USDOJ.GOV

TOTAL: 20

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### **ENTERED**

August 05, 2022 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	) Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
Debtor.	)

ORDER (I) APPROVING DEBTOR'S PROPOSED FORM OF ADEQUATE ASSURANCE OF PAYMENT FOR FUTURE UTILITY SERVICES, (II) APPROVING ADEQUATE ASSURANCE PROCEDURES, (III) PROHIBITING UTILITY PROVIDERS FROM ALTERING, REFUSING OR DISCONTINUING SERVICE, AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the motion (the "Motion") of the Debtor for entry of an order (this "Order"): approving the Proposed Adequate Assurance of payment for future Utility Services; approving the Adequate Assurance Procedures for resolving Additional Assurance Requests; prohibiting Utility Providers from altering, refusing or discontinuing services; and granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and approxible (Rick Day) Deckaration; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found it may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtor's estate, its creditors and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtor's notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing, xif xxxxxx before this Court (the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

"Hearing"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing (increase) establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Debtor shall cause a copy of the Motion and this Order to be served on each Utility Provider listed on the Utility Services List no later than two business days after the date this Order is entered.
- 2. The Debtor's deposit of cash in a segregated account on the Debtor's books in an amount equal to two weeks average utility bills together with its ability to pay for future utility services in the ordinary course of business subject to the Adequate Assurance Procedures, shall constitute adequate assurance of future payment to the Utility Providers as required by Bankruptcy Code section 366.
  - 3. The following "Adequate Assurance Procedures" are hereby approved:
  - (i) Any Utility Provider desiring additional assurances of payment in the form of deposits, prepayments or otherwise must serve a request for additional assurance (an "Additional Assurance Request") on the Notice Parties. An Additional Assurance Request may be made at any time.
  - (ii) Any Additional Assurance Request must: (i) be in writing; (ii) identify the location for which the Utility Services are provided; (iii) summarize the Debtor's payment history relevant to the affected account(s), including any security deposits; and (iv) explain why the Utility Provider believes the Proposed Adequate Assurance is not sufficient adequate assurance of future payment.
  - (iii) Upon the Debtor's receipt of any Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor shall promptly negotiate with such Utility Provider to resolve such Utility Provider's Additional Assurance Request.
  - (iv) The Debtor may, without further order from the Court, resolve any Additional Assurance Request by mutual agreement with a Utility Provider, and the Debtor may, in connection with any such agreement, provide such Utility Provider with additional adequate assurance of payment, including, but not limited to, cash deposits, prepayments or other forms of security if the Debtor believes that such adequate assurance is reasonable in their business judgment,

- subject to the terms of any collateral or other financing order entered by the Court; provided, however, that the Debtor shall maintain a summary record of such agreements and their respective terms, and such summary record and the agreements themselves shall be available to any official committee appointed in these chapter 11 cases and the U.S. Trustee upon request.
- (v) If the Debtor and the Utility Provider are not able to reach an alternative resolution within 14 days of receipt of the Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor will request a hearing before the Court to determine the adequacy of assurances of payment with respect to a particular Utility Provider (the "Determination Hearing"), pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 366(c)(3). Pending resolution of any such Determination Hearing, the Utility Provider filing such Additional Assurance Request shall be prohibited from altering, refusing or discontinuing Utility Services to the Debtor on account of unpaid charges for prepetition services or on account of any objections to the Proposed Adequate Assurance.
- 4. If an amount relating to Utility Services provided postpetition by a Utility Provider is unpaid, and remains unpaid beyond any applicable grace period, such Utility Provider may request additional adequate assurance by following the Adequate Assurance Procedures and providing notice to: (i) the *Debtor's counsel* and *(ii)* the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of Texas, 515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516, Houston, Texas 77002 (collectively, the "Notice Parties").
- 5. The Utility Providers are prohibited from requiring additional adequate assurance of payment other than pursuant to the Adequate Assurance Procedures.
- 6. Unless and until a Utility Provider files an objection or serves an Additional Assurance Request, such Utility Provider shall be: (i) deemed to have received adequate assurance of payment that is "satisfactory" to such Utility Provider in compliance with Bankruptcy Code section 366 and (ii) forbidden from (a) discontinuing, altering or refusing services to, or discriminating against, the Debtor on account of any unpaid prepetition charges, the commencement of these chapter 11 cases or any perceived inadequacy of the Proposed Adequate Assurance, and (b) requiring additional assurance of payment other than the Proposed Adequate Assurance.
  - 7. The Debtor is authorized, following a time period of 14 days afforded to (i) the

affected Utility Provider and (ii) counsel to Notice Parties to object, and the Debtor having received no objection from any such Utility Provider, to remove any Utility Provider from the Utility Services List. If an objection is received, the Debtor shall request a hearing before this Court at the next omnibus hearing date, or such other date that the Debtor and the Utility Provider may agree. The Debtor shall not deduct from the Adequate Assurance Deposit the amount set aside for any Utility Provider that the Debtor seeks to terminate or delete from the Utility Services List unless and until the 14-day notice period has passed and the Debtor has not received any objection to the termination or deletion of such Utility Provider from the Utility Services List, or until such objection has been resolved consensually or by order of the Court.

- 8. The Debtor is authorized to add any Utility Provider to the Utility Services List; provided that such amended Utility Services List shall be served on the Notice Parties. This Order shall be binding upon any subsequently-identified Utility Provider. To the extent the Debtor identifies additional Utility Providers, the Debtor will serve on such Utility Provider, within two business days, a copy this Order, including the Adequate Assurance Procedures, and provide such Utility Provider a time period of 14 days to object to the inclusion of such Utility Provider on the Utility Services List. If an objection is received, the Debtor shall request a hearing before this Court. In addition, the Debtor will provide an Adequate Assurance Deposit in an amount equal to the cost for services for 14 days based on historical average payments during the preceding 12 months for any Utility Provider added to the Utility Services List as set forth herein.
- 9. The inclusion of any entity in, as well as any omission of any entity from, the Utility Services List shall not be deemed an admission by the Debtor that such entity is, or is not, a "utility" within the meaning of Bankruptcy Code section 366, and the Debtor reserves all rights with respect thereto.
  - 10. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Order and any actions taken pursuant to

such relief, nothing in this Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for or validity of any claim against a Debtor entity under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtor's, or any other party in interest's, right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in the Motion or any order granting the relief requested by the Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt or reject any agreement, contract or lease pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 365; (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability or perfection of any lien on, security interest in or other encumbrance on property of the Debtor's estate; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtor's, or any other party in interest's, rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (h) a concession by the Debtor that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in the Motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity or perfection or to seek avoidance of all such liens.

- 11. Notwithstanding anything in this Order to the contrary, any payment to be made, or any authorization contained hereunder shall be subject to the terms of any orders authorizing use of cash collateral approved by this Court in the chapter 11 case.
- 12. The Adequate Assurance Procedures set forth herein are for all Utility Providers providing Utility Services to the Debtor and are not limited to those parties or entities listed on the Utility Services List.
  - 13. The contents of the Motion satisfy the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003(b).
- 14. Notice of the Motion satisfies the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a), and the Bankruptcy Local Rules are satisfied by such notice.
  - 15. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Order are

immediately effective and enforceable upon entry. The Debtor is authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Motion.

16. This Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation and enforcement of this Order.

Signed: August 05, 2022

United States Bankruptcy Judge

### Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 77 of 262

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

Case No. 22-60043-cml In re: Free Speech Systems LLC Chapter 11

Debtor

## CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

District/off: 0541-4 User: ADIuser Page 1 of 2 Date Rcvd: Aug 05, 2022 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 8

The following symbols are used throughout this certificate:

Symbol Definition

- Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP, adding the last four digits to complete the zip +4, or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.
- Addresses marked '^' were sent via mandatory electronic bankruptcy noticing pursuant to Fed. R. Bank. P. 9036.

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Aug 07, 2022:

Recip ID		Recipient Name and Address
db	+	Free Speech Systems LLC, 3019 Alvin Devane Blvd. STE 300, Austin, TX 78741-7417
cr	+	David Wheeler, et al., c/o Cain & Skarnulis PLLC, 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850, Austin, TX 78701-4653
cr	+	Leonard Pozner, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Marcel Fontaine, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Neil Heslin, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Scarlett Lewis, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Veronique De La Rosa, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774

TOTAL: 7

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.

Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI). Electronic transmission is in Eastern

Recip ID Notice Type: Email Address Date/Time Recipient Name and Address Aug 05 2022 19:44:29 Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Revenue

Acco, Christopher J. Dylla, P.O. Box 12548,

Austin, TX 78711-2548

TOTAL: 1

### BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, \*duplicate of an address listed above, \*P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

Bypass Reason Name and Address Recip ID Shelby A Jordan intp

TOTAL: 1 Undeliverable, 0 Duplicate, 0 Out of date forwarding address

### NOTICE CERTIFICATION

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Data: Ana 07, 2022	Ciamatura	/s/Gustava Winters
Date: Aug 07, 2022	Signature:	/s/Gustava winters

District/off: 0541-4 User: ADIuser Page 2 of 2 Date Rcvd: Aug 05, 2022 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 8

## CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on August 5, 2022 at the address(es) listed

Name **Email Address** 

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Christopher Dylla

on behalf of Creditor Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Revenue Accounting Division bk-cdylla@oag.texas.gov,

Sherri.Simpson@oag.texas.gov

Ha Minh Nguyen

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com; atty jmartin@bluestylus.com; ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jayson B. Ruff

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov

Melissa A Haselden

mhaselden@haseldenfarrow.com

haseldenbankruptcytrustee@gmail.com;mhaselden@ecf.axosfs.com;haselden.melissaa.r104367@notify.bestcase.com

R. J. Shannon

on behalf of Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC rshannon@shannonpllc.com rshannon@shannonleellp.com;7044075420@filings.docketbird.com

Randy W Williams

on behalf of Creditor David Wheeler et al. rww@bymanlaw.com,

rw13 @ trustesolutions.com; rw13 @ trustesolutions.net; rw11 @ trustesolutions.net; rww.trustee1 @ gmail.com; rw13 @ trustesolutions.net; rww.trustee1 & gmail.com; rw13 & g

Raymond William Battaglia

on behalf of Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC rbattaglialaw@outlook.com rwbresolve@gmail.com

Ryan E Chapple

on behalf of Creditor David Wheeler et al. rchapple@cstrial.com, aprentice@cstrial.com

Shelby A Jordan

on behalf of Interested Party Shelby A Jordan cmadden@jhwclaw.com

US Trustee

USTPRegion07.HU.ECF@USDOJ.GOV

TOTAL: 20

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

### **ENTERED**

August 05, 2022 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	8	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	
Debtor.	§	

# ORDER (A) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTOR TO PAY PREPETITION OBLIGATIONS OF CERTAIN CRITICAL VENDORS AND (B) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

Upon the *Debtor's Motion for Order (A) Authorizing the Debtor to Pay Prepetition Obligations of Certain Critical Vendors and (B) Granting Related Relief* (the "Motion")<sup>1</sup> filed on July 29, 2022; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the Motion and the relief requested therein pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and consideration of the Motion and the requested relief being a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and venue being proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and proper notice of the Motion having been provided, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

2. 1. The Debtor is authorized to pay in the ordinary course of its business to (a) pay the prepetition obligations owed to the Critical Vendors in the amounts set forth in <u>Schedule</u>

1 attached hereto as those obligations come due and shall consult with the Subchapter V Trustee and provide requested information with respect to each proposed payment in advance of remitting the same to Critical Vendors. Any party that accepts payments from the Debtor on account of a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used by not otherwise defined in this Order shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Motion.

Critical Vendor claim shall be deemed to have agreed to the terms and provisions of this order. The payment of the Obligations is conditioned upon the agreement of each Critical Vendor to continue supplying services on terms and based on practices and programs in effect between the Critical Vendor and the Debtor in the year prior to the Petition Date (the "Customary Trade Terms"), or such other trade terms as are agreed to by the Debtor and the Critical Vendor.

- 3. The Debtor shall have the right to negotiate new trade terms with the Critical Vendor as a condition to payment of a portion of the obligations owed to each Critical Vendor (the "Obligations").
- 4. Any payments made on Obligations pursuant to this Motion shall be applied first to any claim of such Critical Vendors under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code. Nothing in this Motion or any order of this Court approving this Motion should be construed as a waiver by the Debtor of its rights to contest any invoice of a Critical Vendor under applicable non-bankruptcy law.
- 5. If a Critical Vendor refuses to supply services to the Debtor on Customary Trade Terms following payment of any portion of the Obligations, the Debtor, in its discretion, and without further order of the Court, may deem any payments made to the Critical Vendor on account of the Obligations to have been in payment of then-outstanding post-petition claims of the Critical Vendor and to terminate the critical vendor status of such a vendor (the "Terminated Obligor").
- 6. In the event the Debtor chooses not to terminate the critical vendor status of a Critical Vendor immediately upon a refusal by a Critical Vendor to provide services in accordance with Customary Trade Terms, the Debtor shall not be deemed to have waived the ability to terminate a Critical Vendor or waived the ability to deem any payments made to the

Critical Vendor on account of the Obligations to have been in payment of then-outstanding postpetition claims of such Critical Vendor or to compel disgorgement of payments made to such Critical Vendor pursuant to this order.

- 7. In the event the Debtor exercises the rights set forth in the preceding paragraph, the Terminated Obligor shall be required to immediately return any payments made on account of its Obligations to the extent that such payments exceed the post-petition amounts then owed to the Terminated Obligor, without giving effect to any rights of setoff or reclamation. In the event that the Terminated Obligor refuses to acknowledge such recharacterization and to issue the repayment, the Debtor is authorized to compel such recharacterization and repayment by a motion on such notice as is required by this Court. In addition, the Debtor shall have the right to compel the disgorgement of the Critical Vendor payment repayment by a motion on such notice as is required by this Court.
- 8. The Debtor shall maintain a matrix/schedule of amounts directly or indirectly paid, subject to the terms and conditions of this Order, including the following information: (a) the names of the payee; (b) the amount of the payment; (c) the category or type of payment, as further described and classified in the Motion; and (d) the payment date. On or before the date that is thirty (30) days from entry of this Order, the Debtor shall provide a copy of such matrix/schedule to the U.S. Trustee, the Subchapter V trustee appointed in this case, and any committee appointed in this Chapter 11 Case. Thereafter, the Debtor shall attach a copy of such matrix/schedule to its monthly operating reports filed in the Chapter 11 Case containing the same information set forth above. Parties in interest shall then have fourteen (14) calendar days to file written objections to Critical Third-Party Vendor status or any payment made by the Debtor pursuant to this Order. If the

objection is sustained, the Critical Third-Party Vendor may be required to disgorge any such payments.

- 9. Nothing in this Order or the Motion shall limit (x) the Debtor's authority to pay obligations to creditors that were incurred by the Debtor after the Petition Date.
- 10. Nothing in this Order or any actions taken pursuant to such relief is intended or shall be construed as (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of any claim against the Debtor under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law, (b) a waiver of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's right to dispute any claim on any ground, (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim, (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this motion or any order granting the relief requested in this motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim, (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtor's estate, (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law, or (h) a concession from the Debtor that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in this motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or seek avoidance of all such liens.
- 11. Any payment made pursuant to the Court's order is not intended and should not be construed as an admission as to the validity of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtor's or any other party in interest's rights to subsequently dispute such claim.

- 12. This Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry and shall not be stayed by Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), if applicable.
- 13. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, or enforcement of this Order.

Signed: August 05, 2022

Inited States Ponkrunter I

United States Bankruptcy Judge

# SCHEDULE 1 TO ORDER

		Amount of Critica				
Vendor	Description	Vendor Claim	Address	City	State	Zip
Addshoppers, Inc	E Commerce Store	\$ 2,191.9	3 222 S. Church Street #410M	Charlotte	NC	28202
Amazon Web Services	E Commerce Store	\$ 77,000.0	0			
ATXHD,Inc	Satellite uplink	\$ 19,334.4	8 602 S. Cowal Drive	Spicewood	TX	78669
Austin Security & Investigation Solution	Uniformed Security	\$ 28,044.3	4 P.O. Box 2904	Pflugervill	TX	78691
Balcones Recycling Inc.	Trash / Dumpster Service	\$ 386.9	9 P.O. Box 679912	Dallas	TX	75267
Cloudflare, Inc	IT / E Commerce Security	\$ 124,162.6	4 Dept LA 24609	Pasadena	CA	91185-4609
eCommerce CDN LLC	E Commerce Store	\$ 1,070.8	5 221 E 63rd Street	Savannah	GA	31405
Edgecast, Inc.	Radio Station Link	\$ 6,449.3	0 Dept CH 18120	Palatine	IL	60055
Frost Insurance Agency	Company Insurance	\$ 2,694.5	2 401 Congress Ave., 14th Floor	Austin	TX	78701
Getty Images, Inc	Licenses for Pictures / Video	\$ 10,121.3	8 P.O. Box 953604	St. Louis	MO	63195-3604
Haivision Network Video	Streaming Bandwidth	\$ 54,851.5	0 Dept CH 19848	Palatine	IL	60055-9848
Magento	E Commerce Store	\$ 7,792.4	0 P.O. Box 204125	Dallas	TX	75320-4105
mongoDB Cloud	Cloud Storage	\$ 3,054.4	4 1633 Broadway 39th Floor	New York	NY	10019
Protection 1 Alarm	Alarm Service	\$ 3,461.4	.2			
Synergy North America Inc	e commerce software	\$ 2,061.4	9 11001 W. 120th Ave. Suite 400	Broomfield	СО	80021
The Hartford	Company Insurance	\$ 2,780.3	5			
Travelers	Company Insurance	\$ 673.4	8			
TrustArc		\$ 1,221.4	.6			
WMQM-AM 1600	Advertising	\$ 2,291.6	7 21 Stephen Hill Rd	Atoka	TN	38004
WWCR	Advertising	\$ 9,900.0	0 1300 WWCR Avenue	Nashville	TN	37218-3800
	Total Critical Vendors	\$ 359,544.6	2			

### Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 85 of 262

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

In re: Case No. 22-60043-cml
Free Speech Systems LLC Chapter 11

Debtor

### CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

District/off: 0541-4 User: ADIuser Page 1 of 2
Date Rcvd: Aug 05, 2022 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 8

The following symbols are used throughout this certificate:

Symbol Definition

- + Addresses marked '+' were corrected by inserting the ZIP, adding the last four digits to complete the zip +4, or replacing an incorrect ZIP. USPS
  - regulations require that automation-compatible mail display the correct ZIP.
- ^ Addresses marked '^' were sent via mandatory electronic bankruptcy noticing pursuant to Fed. R. Bank. P. 9036.

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Aug 07, 2022:

Recip ID		Recipient Name and Address
db	+	Free Speech Systems LLC, 3019 Alvin Devane Blvd. STE 300, Austin, TX 78741-7417
cr	+	David Wheeler, et al., c/o Cain & Skarnulis PLLC, 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850, Austin, TX 78701-4653
cr	+	Leonard Pozner, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Marcel Fontaine, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Neil Heslin, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Scarlett Lewis, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774
cr	+	Veronique De La Rosa, c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP, Attention: Avi Moshenberg, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774

TOTAL: 7

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center.

Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI). Electronic transmission is in Eastern Standard Time.

Recip ID Notice Type: Email Address Date/Time Recipient Name and Address
cr ^ MEBN

Aug 05 2022 19:44:30 Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts,

05 2022 19:44:30 Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Revenue Acco, Christopher J. Dylla, P.O. Box 12548,

Austin, TX 78711-2548

TOTAL: 1

### BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, \*duplicate of an address listed above, \*P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

Recip ID Bypass Reason Name and Address intp Shelby A Jordan

TOTAL: 1 Undeliverable, 0 Duplicate, 0 Out of date forwarding address

### NOTICE CERTIFICATION

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Aug 07, 2022	Signature:	/s/Gustava Winters	

District/off: 0541-4 User: ADIuser Page 2 of 2 Date Rcvd: Aug 05, 2022 Form ID: pdf002 Total Noticed: 8

## CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on August 5, 2022 at the address(es) listed

Name **Email Address** 

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Avi Moshenberg

on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com ana.sanchez@mhllp.com

Christopher Dylla

on behalf of Creditor Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Revenue Accounting Division bk-cdylla@oag.texas.gov,

Sherri.Simpson@oag.texas.gov

Ha Minh Nguyen

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Neil Heslin jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Marcel Fontaine jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Veronique De La Rosa jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Scarlett Lewis jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com; atty jmartin@bluestylus.com; ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jarrod B. Martin

on behalf of Creditor Leonard Pozner jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Lara.Coleman@chamberlainlaw.com;atty\_jmartin@bluestylus.com;ginger.davis@chamberlainlaw.com

Jayson B. Ruff

on behalf of U.S. Trustee US Trustee jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov

Melissa A Haselden

mhaselden@haseldenfarrow.com

haseldenbankruptcytrustee@gmail.com;mhaselden@ecf.axosfs.com;haselden.melissaa.r104367@notify.bestcase.com

R. J. Shannon

on behalf of Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC rshannon@shannonpllc.com rshannon@shannonleellp.com;7044075420@filings.docketbird.com

Randy W Williams

on behalf of Creditor David Wheeler et al. rww@bymanlaw.com,

rw13 @ trustesolutions.com; rw13 @ trustesolutions.net; rw11 @ trustesolutions.net; rww.trustee1 @ gmail.com; rw13 @ trustesolutions.net; rww.trustee1 & gmail.com; rw13 & g

Raymond William Battaglia

on behalf of Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC rbattaglialaw@outlook.com rwbresolve@gmail.com

Ryan E Chapple

on behalf of Creditor David Wheeler et al. rchapple@cstrial.com, aprentice@cstrial.com

Shelby A Jordan

on behalf of Interested Party Shelby A Jordan cmadden@jhwclaw.com

US Trustee

USTPRegion07.HU.ECF@USDOJ.GOV

TOTAL: 20

AO 435	ase 4:23-cv-004	<del>l63 Docum</del>	<del>ent 6-12 Г</del>	<del>iled on 03/23/23 in TXS</del> E	) <sub>- Page 87 c</sub>	of 262
(Rev. 04/18)		ADMINISTRATIV	'E OFFICE OF THE	UNITED STATES COURTS	FOR COURT U	
,		7	CRANSCRIPT	ODDED	<b>DUE DATE:</b>	
Please Read Inst	ructions:		KANSCKII I			
1. NAME	-1-			2. PHONE NUMBER	3. DATE	
Ryan Chapp				(512) 477-5000	8/8/2022	I am cont
	ADDRESS OR EMAIL estrial.com; aprentic	e@cetrial.com		5. CITY Austin	6. STATE	7. ZIP CODE 78701
8. CASE NUMB		). JUDGE	ı		PROCEEDINGS	70701
22-60043		Lopez		10. FROM 8/3/2022	11. TO 8/3/20	122
12. CASE NAM		Lopez			OF PROCEEDINGS	22
	peech Systems, LL	.C		13. CITY Houston	14. STATE TX	
15. ORDER FOR				10. 011 1	111211112	
APPEAL		CRIMINAL		CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT	<b>★</b> BANKRU	PTCY
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16. TRANSCRIE	PT REQUESTED (Specify	portion(s) and date	(s) of proceeding(s)	for which transcript is requested)		
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VOIR DIRE				TESTIMONY (Specify Witness)		<b>(</b> )
X OPENING ST	ATEMENT (Plaintiff)	8/3/2022				
X OPENING ST	ATEMENT (Defendant)	8/3/2022				
X CLOSING AR	GUMENT (Plaintiff)	8/3/2022		PRE-TRIAL PROCEEDING (Spcy)		
	GUMENT (Defendant)	8/3/2022				
X OPINION OF	COURT	8/3/2022				
JURY INSTR	UCTIONS			X OTHER (Specify)	8/3/2022	
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BAIL HEARI	NG					
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		7	TRANSCRIPT	ORDER	<b>DUE DATE:</b>	
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1. NAME	-1-			2. PHONE NUMBER	3. DATE	
Ryan Chapp				(512) 477-5000	8/8/2022	a am cont
	ADDRESS OR EMAIL estrial.com; aprentic	o@cetrial com	•	5. CITY Austin	6. STATE	7. ZIP CODE <b>78701</b>
8. CASE NUMB		D. JUDGE	ı		PROCEEDINGS	70701
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X OPENING ST	ATEMENT (Defendant)	8/3/2022				
CLOSING AR	RGUMENT (Plaintiff)	8/3/2022		PRE-TRIAL PROCEEDING (Spcy)		
CLOSING AR	RGUMENT (Defendant)	8/3/2022				
X OPINION OF	COURT	8/3/2022				
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		strial.com; aprentic	ce@cstrial.com	ı	Austin	TX	78701
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	JURY INSTRU	JCTIONS			OTHER (Specify)	8/3/2022	
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19.	. DATE /8/2022				PHONE NUMBER		
		O BE PREPARED BY			COURT ADDRESS		
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#### **GENERAL**

Use. Use this form to order the transcription of proceedings. Complete a separate order form for each case number for which transcripts are ordered.

**Completion.** Complete Items 1-19. Do *not* complete shaded areas which are reserved for the court's use.

**Order Copy.** Keep a copy for your records.

**Submitting to the Court.** Submit the form in the format required by the court.

**Deposit Fee.** The court will notify you of the amount of the required deposit fee which may be mailed or delivered to the court. Upon receipt of the deposit, the court will process the order.

**Delivery Time.** Delivery time is computed from the date of receipt of the deposit fee or for transcripts ordered by the federal government from the date of receipt of the signed order form.

**Completion of Order.** The court will notify you when the transcript is completed.

Balance Due. If the deposit fee was insufficient to cover all charges, the court will notify you of the balance due which must be paid prior to receiving the completed order.

#### **SPECIFIC**

These items should always be completed. Items 1-19.

Only one case number may be listed per order. Item 8.

Place an "X" in each box that applies. Item 15.

Place an "X" in the box for each portion requested. List specific date(s) of the proceedings for which transcript is Item 16. requested. Be sure that the description is clearly written to facilitate processing. Orders may be placed for as few pages of transcript as are needed.

Item 17. Categories. There are six (6) categories of transcripts which may be ordered. These are:

> Ordinary. A transcript to be delivered within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of an order. (Order is considered received upon receipt of the deposit.)

14-Day. A transcript to be delivered within fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of an order.

Expedited. A transcript to be delivered within seven (7) calendar days after receipt of an order.

3-Day. A transcript to be delivered within three (3) calendar days after receipt of an order.

Daily. A transcript to be delivered following adjournment and prior to the normal opening hour of the court on the following morning whether or not it actually is a court day.

Hourly. A transcript of proceedings ordered under unusual circumstances to be delivered within two (2) hours.

Realtime. A draft unedited transcript produced by a certified realtime reporter as a byproduct of realtime to be delivered electronically during proceedings or immediately following adjournment.

**NOTE**: Full price may be charged only if the transcript is delivered within the required time frame. For example, if an order for expedited transcript is not completed and delivered within seven (7) calendar days, payment would be at the 14-day delivery rate, and if not completed and delivered within 14 calendar days, payment would be at the ordinary delivery rate.

Ordering. Place an "X" in each box that applies. Indicate the number of additional copies ordered.

Original. Original typing of the transcript. An original must be ordered and prepared prior to the availability of copies. The original fee is charged only once. The fee for the original includes the copy for the records of the court.

First Copy. First copy of the transcript after the original has been prepared. All parties ordering copies must pay this rate for the first copy ordered.

Additional Copies. All other copies of the transcript ordered by the same party.

Item 18. Sign in this space to certify that you will pay all charges. (This includes the deposit plus any additional charges.)

Item 19. Enter the date of signing.

Shaded Area. Reserved for the court's use.

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

MOTION AND ORDER FOR ADMISSION <i>PRO HAC VICE</i>						
Division	Ног	uston	Main Case Number	22-60043		
Debtor	In Re:		Free Speech Systems	, LLC		
This lawyer, who is admit	ted to the St	ate Bar of	Massachusetts	:		
Na Fir Str City & Z Telep Licensed: Sta	rm eet Zip Code ohone	er	Joseph S.U. Bodoff Rubin and Rudman LLP 53 State Street Boston, MA 02109 617-330-7038 Massachusetts: 549116			
Seeks to appear as the atto	rney for this	s party:				
		ADP Totals	Source, Inc.			
Dated: 8/9/2022		Signed: /s/ Joseph S.U. Bodoff				
COURT USE ONLY: Th	ne applicant'	's state bar rep	orts their status as:			
Dated: Signed:			Deputy Clerk			
Order						
Dated:	This	lawyer is adn	nitted pro hac vice.			
			United States Bankrup	otcy Judge		

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In Re: Free Speech Systems LLC Case No. 22-60043

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$

Debtor Chapter 11

# **NOTICE OF APPEARANCE AND REQUEST FOR NOTICE**

Stephen A. Roberts and the firm of Stephen A. Roberts, P.C. files this Notice Of Appearance And Request For Notice.

- 1. Stephen A. Roberts and the firm of Stephen A. Roberts, P.C. have been retained by David and Carol Jones, interested parties.
  - 2. My mailing address and email address is:

Stephen A. Roberts Stephen A. Roberts, PC 1400 Marshall Ln Austin, TX 78703 sroberts@srobertslawfirm.com

3. I request that I be included on the mailing matrix and be served with notice of all matters and proceedings filed in the this bankruptcy case in accordance with applicable rules.

Respectfully Submitted:

/s/ Stephen A. Roberts Stephen A. Roberts Tx Bar Number 17019200 Stephen A. Roberts, PC 1400 Marshall Ln Austin, TX 78703 (512) 431-7337 sroberts@srobertslawfirm.com

Counsel for David and Carol Jones

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of foregoing pleading was filed on August 10, 2022 using the CM/ECF system which will send notification on all parties requesting such notice. Additionally, within one business day thereafter, the pleadings will be served by U.S. postal service upon the parties listed on the attached matrix.

/s/ Stephen A Roberts

Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 94 of 262 cocal noticing Free Speech Systems LLC Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Revenu

Label Matrix for local noticing 0541-4 Case 22-60043

Southern District of Texas

Houston

Tue Aug 9 14:04:53 CDT 2022

**US Trustee** 

Office of the US Trustee

515 Rusk Ave Ste 3516

Houston, TX 77002-2604

ADP TotalSource Payroll 10200 Sunset Drive Miami, FL 33173-3033

Addshoppers, Inc

222 S. Church Street , #410M Charlotte, NC 28202-3213

Alex Emeric Jones c/o Jordan & Ortiz, P.C. Attention: Shelby Jordan 500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Suite 900 Corpus Christi, TX 78401-0658

Amazon Web Services 410 Terry Avenue North Seattle, WA 98109-5210

Andrews, Christopher 210 N. Beyer Stree Marion, TX 78124-4014

Biodec, LLC 901 S. Mopac Expressway, Building 4, Ste Austin, TX 78746-5776

Campco 4625 W. Jefferson Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90016-4006

Chelsea Green Publishing 85 North Main Street Ste 120 White River Junction, VT 05001-7135 Free Speech Systems LLC 3019 Alvin Devane Blvd. STE 300 Austin, TX 78741-7417

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Airco Mechanical, LTD

Ally Auto PO Box 9001948 Louisville, KY 40290-1948

American Express PO Box 650448 Dallas, TX 75265-0448

Atomial, LLC 1920 E. Riverside Drive Suite A-120 #124 Austin, TX 78741-1350

Blott, Jacquelyn 200 University Boulevard Suite 225 #251 Round Rock TX 78665-1096

Carlee SotoParisi c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014

Christopher Sadowski c/o Copycat Legal PLLC 3111 N. University Drive Ste. 301 Coral Springs, FL 33065-5058 Christopher J. Dylla P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

ADP Total Source Insurance 10200 Sunset Drive Miami, FL 33173-3033

AWIO Web Services LLC 6608 Truxton Ln Raleigh, NC 27616-6694

Alex E. Jones c/o Jordan & Ortiz, P.C. Attn: Shelby Jordan 500 North Shoreline Blvd, S

500 North Shoreline Blvd, STE 900 Corpus Christi, TX 78401-0658

Amazon Marketplace Amazon Payments, Inc. 410 Terry Ave N. Seattle, WA 98109-5210

American Media/Reality Zone PO Box 4646 Thousand Oaks, CA 91359-1646

Balcones Recycling Inc. PO Box 679912 Dallas, TX 75267-9916

Brennan Gilmore c/o Civil Rights Clinic ATTN: Andrew Mendrala 600 New Jersey Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001-2022

Carlos Soto c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014

City of Austin PO Box 2267 Austin, TX 78783-2267

# Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 95 of 262 Constant Contact, Inc. CustomTattoNow.com

Cloudflare, Inc Dept LA 24609 Pasadena, CA 91185-4609

asadena, CA 91185-4609 Watham, MA

Constant Contact, Inc.

1601 Trapelo Road

Watham, MA 02451-7357

CustomTattoNow.com

16107 Kensington Dr #172

Sugar Land, TX 77479-4224

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Dona Soto c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014

United Kingdom

EPS, LLC 17350 State Hwy 249, Ste 220, #4331 Houston, TX 77064-1132 ERM Protect 800 South Douglas Road, Suite 940N Coral Gables, FL 33134-3125

Edgecast, Inc.
Dept CH 18120
Palatine, IL 60055-0001

Elevated Solutions Group 28 Maplewood Drive Cos Cob, CT 06807-2601 Erica Lafferty c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014

FW Robert Broadcasting Co 2730 Loumor Ave Metairie, LA 70001-5425 Francine Wheeler c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014 Frost Insurance Agency 401 Congress Avenue, 14th Floor Austin ,TX 78701-3793

Gabriela Tolentino 5701 S Mopac Expy Austin, TX 78749-1464 Getty Images, Inc PO Box 953604 St. Louis, MO 63195-3604 Gracenote 29421 Network Place Chicago, IL 60673-1294

Greenair, Inc 23569 Center Ridge Road Westlake, OH 44145-3642 Haivision Network Video Deot CH 19848 Palatine, IL 60055-9848 Ian Hockley c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014

Impact Fire Services, LLC PO Box 735063 Dallas, TX 75373-5063 Independent Publishers Group PO Box 2154 Bedford Park, IL 60499-2154 Iron Mountain, Inc PO Box 915004 Dallas, TX 75391-5004

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Jennifer Hensel c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014 Jeremy Richman c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014 Jillian Soto c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014 001366 Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 96 of 262 (p) DE LAGE LANDEN FINANCIAL

Justin Lair 1313 Lookout Ave

Klamath Falls, OR 97601-6533

212 Oil Patch Lane Gonzales, TX 78629-8028 (p) DE LAGE LANDEN FINANCIAL ATTN LITIGATION & RECOVERY 1111 OLD EAGLE SCHOOL ROAD WAYNE PA 19087-1453

LIT Industrial

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Larry Klayman, Esq. 7050 W. Palmetto Park Rd Boca Raton, FL 33433-3426 Leonard Pozner c/o Kaster Lynch Farrar & Ball LLP 1117 Herkimer Houston, TX 77008-6745

Lincoln-Remi Group, LLC 1200 Benstein Rd.

Commerce Twp., MI 48390-2200

Logo It, LLC 820 Tivy Street Kerrville, TX 78028-3654 Lumen/Level 3 Communications PO Box 910182 Denver, CO 80291-0182

MRJR Holdings, LLC PO Box 27740

Las Vegas, NV 89126-7740

MVD Entertainment Group 203 Windsor Rd Pottstown, PA 19464-3405 Magento PO Box 204125 Dallas, TX 75320-4105

Microsoft Bing Ads

Marcel Fontaine

c/o Kaster, Lynch, Farrar & Ball LLP 1117 Herkimer

Houston, TX 77008-6745

Mark Barden c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave

c/o Microsoft Online, Inc. P.O. Box 847543 1950 N Stemmons Fwy, Ste 5010 Dallas, TX 75207-3199

Miller, Sean PO Box 763

Wyalusing, PA 18853-0763

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Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014

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Nicole Hockley c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave

350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014 One Party America, LLC 6700 Woodlands Parkway, Suite 230-309 The Woodlands, TX 77382-2575 Orkin, Inc. 5810 Trade Center Drive, Suite 300 Austin, TX 78744-1365

PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC c/o Stephen Lemmon 1801 S. Mopac Expressway

Suite 320 Austin, TX 78746-9817 Pattison Law Firm, P.C. 501 IH-35 Austin, TX 78702-3229 Payarc 411 West Putnam Avenue, Ste 340 Greenwich, CT 06830-6291

Paymentus 18390 NE 68th St Redmond, WA 98052-5057 Paz Law, LLC 1021 Orange Center Road Orange, CT 06477-1216 Percision Oxygen 13807 Thermal Dr Austin, TX 78728-7735 Perfect Imprints.com

709 Eglin Pkwy NE

Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547-2527

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PO Box 341194 Austin, TX 78734-0020

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Brentwood, TN 37027-9110

Poulsen, Debra 112 Eames St. Elkhorn, WI 53121-1228 Power Reviews, Inc. 1 N. Dearborn Street Chicago, IL 60602-4331

Precision Camera 2438 W Anderson Ln Austin, TX 78757-1149

Private Jets, LLC 1250 E. Hallandale Beach Blvd, Suite 505 Hallandale, FL 33009-4635

Protection 1 Alarm PO Box 219044 Kansas City, MO 64121-9044

Public Storage 2301 E. Ben White Blvd Austin, TX 78741-7110

Pullman & Comley, LLC 850 Main Street Bridgeport, CT 06604-4988

Randazza Legal Group, PLLC 2764 Lake Sahara Drive, Suite 109 Las Vegas, NV 89117-3400

RatsMedical.com c/o Rapid Medical 120 N Redwood Rd North Salt Lake, UT 84054-2792 Ready Alliance Group, Inc PO Box 1709 Sandpoint, ID 83864-0901

Renaissance PO Box 8036 Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8036

Restore America PO Box 147 Grimsley, TN 38565-0147 Robert Parker c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014

SLNT 30 N Gould St, Ste 20647 Sheridan, WY 82801-6317

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Skyhorse Publishing 307 West 36th Street, 11th Floor New York, NY 10018-6592

Sparkletts & Sierra Springs PO Box 660579 Dallas, TX 75266-0579

Spectrum Enterprise aka Time Warner Cable PO Box 60074 City of Industry, CA 91716-0074

Stamps.com 1990 E Grand Ave. El Segundo, CA 90245-5013

Stone Edge Technologies, Inc 660 American Avenue, Suite 204 King of Prussia, PA 19406-4032

Stratus Technologies 5 Mill & Main Place, Suite 500 Maynard, MA 01754-2660

Studio 2426, LLC 1920 E. Riverside Drive, Suite Al20, 124 Austin, TX 78741-1350

Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 98 of 262 Synergy North America, Inc TD Canada Trust Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 98 of 262

11001 W. 120th Avenue, Suite 400

Broomfield, CO 80021-3493 Calgary, AB T2P 4K9, Canada

PO Box 13003 Austin, TX 78711-3003

Texas Disposal Systems, Inc

PO Box 674090

Dallas, TX 75267-4090

Texas Gas Service PO Box 219913

421 7th Avenue SW

Kansas City, MO 64121-9913

Textedly

133 N. Citrus Ave., Suite 202

Los Angeles, CA 90036

The Creative Group c/o Robert Half

2884 Sand Hill Road, Ste 200 Menlo Park, CA 94025-7072 The Hartford PO Box 14219

Lexington, KY 40512-4219

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Third Coast Graphics, Inc 110 Del Monte Dr.

Friendswood, TX 77546-4487

Thomas, David 79 Malone Hill Road Elma, WA 98541-9206 Travelers PO Box 660317 Dallas, TX 75266-0317

Travis County
PO Box 149328

Austin, TX 78714-9328

U.S. Legal Support PO Box 4772

Houston, TX 77210-4772

Uline Shipping Supply 12575 Uline Drive

Pleasant Prarie, WI 53158-3686

Vazquez, Valdemar Rodriguez 145 Quail Ridge Drive Kyle TX 78640-9788 Verizon PO Box 660108 Dallas, TX 75266-0108 Verizon Edgecast 13031 West Jefferson Blvd, Building 900 Los Angeles, CA 90094-7002

Veronique De La Rosa c/o Kaster Lynch Farrar & Ball LLP 1117 Herkimer Houston, TX 77008-6745 Vultr 14 Cliffwood Avenue, Suite 300 Matawan, NJ 07747-3931 WMQM-AM 1600 21 Stephen Hill Road Atoka, TN 38004-7183

WWCR 1300 WWCR Avenue Nashville, TN 37218-3800 Waste Connections Lone Star, Inc. PO Box 17608 Austin, TX 78760-7608 Water Event - Pure Water Solutions 1310 Missouri St South Houston, TX 77587-4537

Watson, Paul 9 Riverdale Road Ranmoor Sheffield South Yorkshire S10 3FA United Kingdom Westwood One, LLC 3542 Momentum Place Chicago, IL 60689-5335 William Aldenberg c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014

William Sherlach c/o Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Ave Bridgeport, CT 06604-6014 Willow Grove Productions 1810 Rockcliff Road Austin, TX 78746-1215

Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue PO Box 3028 Milwaukee, WI 53201-3028 Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 99 of 262 ducts, LLC Zoom US

Your Promtional Products, LLC 133 North Friendswood STE 186 Friendswood, TX 77546-3746

989 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94103-1708 55 Almaden Blvd, 6th Floor San Jose, CA 95113-1608

eBay 2025 Hamilton Avenue San Jose, CA 95125-5904 eCommerce CDN, LLC 221 E 63rd Street Savannah, GA 31405-4226 mongoDB Cloud 1633 Broadway 39th Floor New York, NY 10019-6757

David Wheeler, et al. c/o Cain & Skarnulis PLLC 303 Colorado Street Suite 2850

Austin, TX 78701-4653

Melissa A Haselden Haselden Farrow PLLC Pennzoil Place 700 Milam Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77002-2736

Raymond William Battaglia
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66 Granburg Circle

San Antonio, TX 78218-3010

Veronique De La Rosa c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP Attention: Avi Moshenberg 1001 Fannin Street Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002-6774 Leonard Pozner c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP Attention: Avi Moshenberg 1001 Fannin Street Suite 2700

Houston, TX 77002-6774

Houston, TX 77002-6774

Neil Heslin

c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP Attention: Avi Moshenberg 1001 Fannin Street Suite 2700

Scarlett Lewis

c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP Attention: Avi Moshenberg 1001 Fannin Street Suite 2700

Houston, TX 77002-6774

Marcel Fontaine

c/o McDowell Hetherington LLP Attention: Avi Moshenberg

1001 Fannin Suite 2700

Houston, TX 77002-6774

R. J. Shannon Shannon & Lee LLP 700 Milam St., STE 1300 Houston, TX 77002-2736

Shelby A Jordan

The preferred mailing address (p) above has been substituted for the following entity/entities as so specified by said entity/entities in a Notice of Address filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f) and Fed.R.Bank.P. 2002 (g) (4).

Konica Minolta Premier Finance PO Box 41602 Philadelphia, PA 19101-1602

The following recipients may be/have been bypassed for notice due to an undeliverable (u) or duplicate (d) address.

(u) Resistance Manifesto

End of Label Matrix
Mailable recipients 165
Bypassed recipients 1
Total 166

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

# **ENTERED**

August 10, 2022

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT Nathan District Clerk

Division	Houston	Main Case Number	22-60043	
Debtor	In Re:	Free Speech Systems, I	LC	
awyer, who is admit	tted to the State Bar of	Massachusetts	:	
Name Firm Street City & Zip Code Telephone Licensed: State & Number  Name Joseph S.U. Bodoff Rubin and Rudman LLP 53 State Street Boston, MA 02109 617-330-7038 Massachusetts: 549116				
to appear as the atto	orney for this party:			
	ADP Totals	Source, Inc.		
: 8/9/2022	Signed: /s/	Joseph S.U. Bodoff		
COURT USE ONLY: The applicant's state bar reports their status as: Active  Dated: 8/10/2022 Signed:/s/ R. Saldaña Deputy Clerk				

This lawyer is admitted pro hac vice.

Signed: August 10, 2022

United States Bankruptcy Judge

#### Information to identify the case:

Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC

EIN: \_\_-\_\_\_

Name

1. Debtor's full name

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

Date case filed for chapter:

7/29/22

11

Case number:

22-60043

# Official Form 309F2 (For Corporations or Partnerships under Subchapter V)

# **Notice of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case**

10/20

For the debtor listed above, a case has been filed under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. An order for relief has been entered.

This notice has important information about the case for creditors, debtors, and trustees, including information about the meeting of creditors and deadlines. Read both pages carefully.

The filing of the case imposed an automatic stay against most collection activities. This means that creditors generally may not take action to collect debts from the debtor or the debtor's property. For example, while the stay is in effect, creditors cannot sue, assert a deficiency, repossess property, or otherwise try to collect from the debtor. Creditors cannot demand repayment from the debtor by mail, phone, or otherwise. Creditors who violate the stay can be required to pay actual and punitive damages and attorney's fees.

Confirmation of a chapter 11 plan may result in a discharge of debt. A creditor who wants to have a particular debt excepted from discharge may be required to file a complaint in the bankruptcy clerk's office within the deadline specified in this notice. (See line 12 below for more information.)

To protect your rights, consult an attorney. All documents filed in the case may be inspected at the bankruptcy clerk's office at the address listed below or through PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records at <a href="https://pacer.uscourts.gov">https://pacer.uscourts.gov</a>).

The staff of the bankruptcy clerk's office cannot give legal advice.

Do not file this notice with any proof of claim or other filing in the case.

2. All other names used in last 8 years	ı the	
3. Address	3019 Alvin Devane Blvd. STE 300 Austin, TX 78741	
4. Debtor's attorney Name and address	Raymond William Battaglia Law Offices of Ray Battaglia, PLLC 66 Granburg Circle San Antonio, TX 78218	Contact phone 2106019405  Email: rbattaglialaw@outlook.com

5.	Bankruptcy trustee Name and address	Melissa A Haselden Haselden Farrow PLLC Pennzoil Place	
		1 01112011 1 1400	

700 Milam **Suite 1300** Houston, TX 77002

Free Speech Systems LLC

Email: mhaselden@haseldenfarrow.com

Contact phone 832.819.1149

#### Bankruptcy clerk's office

https://pacer.uscourts.gov.

Documents in this case may be filed at this address. You may inspect all records filed in this case at this office or online at

United States Bankruptcy Court

PO Box 61010 Houston, TX 77208 Hours open: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Friday

Contact phone (713) 250-5500

Date: 8/11/22

For more information, see page 2 >

Debtor Free Speech Systems LLC

Case number 22-60043

#### 7. Meeting of creditors

The debtor's representative must attend the meeting to be questioned

under oath. Creditors may attend, but are not required to do so.

#### September 7, 2022 at 01:00 PM

The meeting may be continued or adjourned to a later date. If so, the date will be on the court docket.

Location:

Suite 3401, 515 Rusk Ave, Houston, TX 77002

#### 8. Proof of claim deadline

Deadline for filing proof of claim:

For all creditors (except a governmental

10/7/22

unit):

For a governmental unit:

2/7/23

A proof of claim is a signed statement describing a creditor's claim. A proof of claim form may be obtained at <a href="https://www.uscourts.gov">www.uscourts.gov</a> or any bankruptcy clerk's office.

Your claim will be allowed in the amount scheduled unless:

- your claim is designated as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated;
- you file a proof of claim in a different amount; or
- vou receive another notice.

If your claim is not scheduled or if your claim is designated as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated, you must file a proof of claim or you might not be paid on your claim and you might be unable to vote on a plan. You may file a proof of claim even if your claim is scheduled.

You may review the schedules at the bankruptcy clerk's office or online at https://pacer.uscourts.gov. Secured creditors retain rights in their collateral regardless of whether they file a proof of claim. Filing a proof of claim submits a creditor to the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court, with consequences a lawyer can explain. For example, a secured creditor who files a proof of claim may surrender important nonmonetary rights, including the right to a jury trial.

#### 9. Exception to discharge deadline

The bankruptcy clerk's office must receive a complaint and any required filing fee by the following deadline

If § 523(c) applies to your claim and you seek to have it excepted from discharge, you must start a judicial proceeding by filing a complaint by the deadline stated

#### Deadline for filing the complaint:

#### Creditors with a foreign 10. address

If you are a creditor receiving notice mailed to a foreign address, you may file a motion asking the court to extend the deadlines in this notice. Consult an attorney familiar with United States bankruptcy law if you have any questions about your rights in this case.

#### Filing a Chapter 11 bankruptcy case

Chapter 11 allows debtors to reorganize or liquidate according to a plan. A plan is not effective unless the court confirms it. You may receive a copy of the plan and a disclosure statement telling you about the plan, and you may have the opportunity to vote on the plan. You will receive notice of the date of the confirmation hearing, and you may object to confirmation of the plan and attend the confirmation hearing. The debtor will generally remain in possession of the property and may continue to operate the debtor's business.

#### 12. Discharge of debts

Confirmation of a chapter 11 plan may result in a discharge of debts, which may include all or part of your debt. See 11 U.S.C. § 1141(d). A discharge means that creditors may never try to collect the debt from the debtor except as provided in the plan. If you want to have a particular debt owed to you excepted from the discharge and § 523(c) applies to your claim, you must start a judicial proceeding by filing a complaint and paying the filing fee in the bankruptcy clerk's office by the deadline.

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	Case No. 22-60043 (CL)
	§	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC	§	Chapter 11
	§	
Debtor	§	

# NOTICE OF SECTION 341 MEETING OF CREDITORS

The Meeting of Creditors pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 341 in the above captioned case will be convened in-person at 515 Rusk Street, Suite 3401, Houston, Texas 77002. Creditors and the public may participate remotely by following the call-in instructions below:

UST-Houston Conference Line Toll Free Number: 866-707-5468

PIN: 6166997

Dated: August 11, 2022, KEVIN M. EPSTEIN

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE

### /s/ HA M NGUYEN

Ha Nguyen, Trial Attorney
CA Bar #305411 | FED ID NO. 3623593
United States Department of Justice
Office of the United States Trustee
515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516
Houston, Texas 77002
E-mail: Ha.Nguyen@usdoj.gov

Cell: 202-590-7962

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Section 341 Meeting of Creditors has been served by electronic means on all PACER participants on August 11, 2022

/s/ Ha M Nguyen Ha M. Nguyen

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC.,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Debtor.	§	

# DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO AMEND INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CASH COLLATERAL

THIS MOTION SEEKS AN ORDER THAT MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOU. IF YOU OPPOSE THE MOTION, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE MOVING PARTY TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE. IF YOU AND THE MOVING PARTY CANNOT AGREE, YOU MUST FILE A RESPONSE AND SEND A COPY TO THE MOVING PARTY. YOU MUST FILE AND SERVE YOUR RESPONSE WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE THIS WAS SERVED ON YOU. YOUR RESPONSE MUST STATE WHY THE MOTION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED. IF YOU DO NOT FILE A TIMELY RESPONSE, THE RELIEF MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU. IF YOU OPPOSE THE MOTION AND HAVE NOT REACHED AN AGREEMENT, YOU MUST ATTEND THE HEARING. UNLESS THE PARTIES AGREE OTHERWISE, THE COURT MAY CONSIDER EVIDENCE AT THE HEARING AND MAY DECIDE THE MOTION AT THE HEARING.

EMERGENCY RELIEF HAS BEEN REQUESTED, IF THE COURT CONSIDERS THE MOTION ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS, THEN YOU WILL HAVE LESS THAN 21 DAYS TO ANSWER, IF YOU OBJECT TO THE REQUESTED RELIEF OR IF YOU BELIEVE THAT THE EMERGENCY CONSIDERATION IS NOT WARRANTED, YOU SHOULD FILE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE. REPRESENTED PARTIES SHOULD ACT THROUGH THEIR ATTORNEY.

AUDIO COMMUNICATION WILL BE BY USE OF THE COURT'S DIAL IN FACILITY. YOU MAY ACCESS THE FACILITY AT 832-917-1510. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN LONG-DISTANCE CHARGES. ONCE CONNECTED, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO ENTER THE CONFERENCE ROOM NUMBER. JUDGE LOPEZ' CONFERENCE ROOM NUMBER IS 590153. YOU MAY VIEW VIDEO VIA GOTOMEETING. TO USE GOTOMEETING, THE COURT RECOMMENDS THAT YOU DOWNLOAD THE FREE GOTOMEETING APPLICATION. TO CONNECT, YOU SHOULD ENTER THE MEETING CODE "JUDGELOPEZ" IN THE GOTOMEETTING APP OR CLICK THE LINK ON JUDGE LOPEZ'S HOME PAGE IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS WEBSITE. ONCE CONNECTED, CLICK THE SETTINGS ICON IN THE UPPER RIGHT-HAND CORNER AND ENTER YOUR NAME UNDER PERSONAL INFORMATION SETTING.

REPRESENTED PARTIES SHOULD ACT THROUGH THEIR ATTORNEY.

### TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

The above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "Debtor" or "FSS"), in the

above-referenced chapter 11 case, hereby files this emergency motion (the "Motion") seeking an order modifying this Court's Interim Order Authorizing Debtor's Use of Cash Collateral and Providing Adequate Protection (the "Interim Order") [Dkt No. 41]. In further support of the Motion, the Debtor respectfully represents as follows:

# **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 1. On July 29, 2022 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), the Debtor commenced the above captioned case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code §§ 101, *et seq.* (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>").
- 2. The Debtor continues in the possession of its property and is operating and managing its businesses as debtor and debtor-in-possession pursuant to Section 1182(2) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. No request for a trustee or examiner has been made. No statutory committee of creditors has been appointed.
- 4. This Court has jurisdiction over this Motion under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). Venue of this proceeding and this Motion are proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 5. The statutory bases for the relief sought in this Motion are 11 U.S.C. §§ 105, 361, and 363 and Rule 4001(b) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

### BACKGROUND<sup>1</sup>

6. FSS filed its Emergency Motion for an Interim and Final Order (I) Authorizing the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Additional factual background and information regarding the Debtor and its operations is set forth in the *Declaration of W. Marc Schwartz in Support of Voluntary Petition and First Day Motions* 

Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(b) and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Pre-Petition Secured Lender (the "Cash Collateral Motion").

- 7. This Court held a hearing on the Cash Collateral Motion on August 3, 2022. The Cash Collateral Motion incorporated a 13-Week Cash Collateral Budget (the "Budget"). At the hearing, the Court authorized the use of cash collateral with certain modifications to the Budget and other conditions which were incorporated into the Interim Order.
- 8. A critical component of FSS's sales business is FSS's ability to fill the orders when the customer purchases the product from the InfowarsStore.com website. When a customer purchases a product, they are charged a shipping fee as part of the sales price. Therefore, an expectation is created that the customer will receive his product on a reasonable delivery schedule. If the product is not fulfilled and delay occurs in shipping the product, the chance increases that the customer may ask for a refund or cancel the order. An excessive amount of cancellation of orders is catastrophic to FSS's business and revenue generation. If orders do not timely ship, customers will cancel orders triggering chargebacks on credit cards and a pattern of chargebacks will adversely affect credit card processing, including possible termination of credit card processing services.
- 9. FSS is facing a crisis in being able to fulfill product sales, as the Budget was prepared in a conservative fashion and did not anticipate a surge in sales of the magnitude actually experienced and the resulting increase in the need for a larger fulfillment budget. The Budget authorized the Debtor to use \$95,278 (with a 10% variance that amounts to \$104,800) of cash collateral to pay fulfillment costs to Blue Ascension, LLC. ("Blue Ascension").
  - 10. First, Alex Jones has no equity or any other stake or interest in Blue Ascension.

Second, Patrick Riley, a former employee of FSS, started Blue Ascension in order to be a specialized fulfillment logistics company. Third, FSS pays Blue Ascension to handle all FSS order fulfillment operations.

- Blue Ascension charges a per piece rate for fulfillment of \$20 per order. For this, Blue Ascension provides a range of services, including handling of receipt of inventory shipments, stocking shelves, picking merchandise for orders, boxing, and shipping orders. Of the cost of fulfillment, more than \$14 consists of shipping costs. Customers are billed an average of \$13.24 per order for shipping and handling,
- 12. But Blue Ascension will not incur shipping costs until it is first paid by FSS for such costs. Blue Ascension, therefore, will not ship products ordered until receipt of the fulfillment charge from the Debtor.
- 13. The Budget projected weekly revenues of \$595,489. FSS projected that weekly revenue amount based on sales for the week ended July 22 (times 1.25%), the first full week following receipt of new product and the last week for which sales figures were available prior to the Petition Date (July 29, 2022). Actual sales have far exceeded the budgeted sales projections, for a number of reasons, including the receipt of new inventory (FSS had lacked product to sell for some time). For the week ended July 29, FSS actual sales revenue was \$961,918. For the week ended August 5 (the first week the bankruptcy was pending), FSS actual sales revenue was \$898,869. So far this week (we only have sales figures for Monday) FSS sales continue at an \$800,000 a week pace.
- 14. On top of actual sales being robust as compared to budget, the Debtor anticipates receipt of long back ordered inventory and new products that should sell quickly. According to the CRO, orders could increase beyond the current level of sales, and perhaps increase to as high

as \$450,000 *per day*, as contrasted with \$595,489 *per week*.

- 15. While this is good news on the one hand, it could be catastrophically dangerous if FSS cannot timely fulfill these new orders. The use a "static" model to project fulfillment costs in the Budget has led to serious under-budgeting of this expense item of the Debtor's business.
- 16. With higher than projected sales, it has become clear to the CRO that the budgeted fulfillment costs are inadequate and the inability to pay fulfillment costs as they are incurred will result in damage to the business unless it is cured now.
- 17. On August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Debtor become aware of issues with the budget arising from the inadequate funding of fulfillment costs due to the significant growth in orders, as discussed in greater detail *infra*.
- Debtor's management began to assess the scale of the issue while Debtor's counsel contacted counsel for PQPR Holdings Limited LLC ("PQPR"), the secured lender, the subchapter V Trustee, the U.S. Trustee and joint counsel for the litigation plaintiffs. All were advised of the nature and scope of the issue by email dated August 11, 2022.
- 19. PQPR consents to the relief requested in the Motion. The Subchapter V Trustee, based on phone conversation, does not oppose the relief requested in the Motion, and suggested the Debtor seek consent form joint counsel for litigation plaintiffs and U.S. Trustee. The Debtor has not heard back from these two parties as of filing of this Motion.

### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

20. In order to eliminate the need to use a static budget (which does not allow the Debtor to capture for the increase in fulfillment costs when sales increase), the Debtor proposes to instruct the credit card processor to withhold from the daily settlement \$20.00 per order shipped

and remit those funds directly to Blue Ascension, at the same time it remits the appropriate percentage of collected funds to FSS and PQPR. There will be no net effect to the Debtor's bottom line by implementing this change, however the increased sales volume will be accretive to the ending cash balance.

- 21. The Debtor believed that this solution is one FSS could adopt in the ordinary course of its business. In an abundance of caution, the Debtor has been transparent with creditor and parties in interest and now seeks an order of this Court modifying the Interim Order to authorize implementation of the proposed solution set forth above effective with the sales reported for Wednesday, August 10, 2022.
- 22. The Debtor further proposes to submit to the U.S. Trustee, the Subchapter V Trustee, counsel for PQPR and Jarred Martin as a representative of the Connecticut and Texas plaintiffs a report each Tuesday reporting sales and the allocation of distributions of those proceeds for the preceding week.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Debtor respectfully requests the Court enter an Order granting the relief requested and granting such other and further relief as the Court may deem proper.

### Respectfully submitted.

### LAW OFFICES OF RAY BATTAGLIA, PLLC

### /S/ RAYMOND W. BATTAGLIA

Raymond W. Battaglia State Bar No. 01918055 rbattaglialaw@outlook.com 66 Granburg Circle San Antonio, Texas 78218 Tel. (210) 601-9405

Proposed Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor-In-Possession

-and-

### SHANNON & LEE LLP

### /s/ Kyung S. Lee

Kyung S. Lee
State Bar No. 12128400
klee@shannonleellp.com
R. J. Shannon
State Bar No. 24108062
rshannon@shannonleellp.com
700 Milam Street, STE 1300
Houston, Texas 77002
Tel. (713) 714-5770

Proposed Co-Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor in Possession

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served by (a) the Court's CM/ECF system on all parties registered to receive such service on the date of filing, (b) by U.S.P.S. first class mail on all parties indicated in the attached service list within 24 hours of the filing, and (c) the following parties by email on the date of filing:

### /s/Raymond W. Battaglia

Raymond W. Battaglia

Attn: Mark Bankson, William Ogden Kaster Lynch Farrar & Ball, LLP 1117 Herkimer Street Houston, TX 77008 mark@fbtrial.com bill@fbtrial.com Attn: Avi Moshenberg McDowell Heterhington LLP 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002 avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com

Attn: Alinor C. Sterlin, Christopher Mattei,
Matthew Blumenthal
Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder
350 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604
asterling@koskoff.com
cmattei@koskoff.com
mblumenthal@koskoff.com

Attn: Cordt Akers
The Akers Law Firm PLLC
Cordt Akers
3401 Allen Parkway, Suite 101
Houston, TX 77019
cca@akersfirm.com

Attn: F. Andino Reynal Fertitta & Reynal LLP 917 Franklin St., Suite 600 Houston, TX 77002 areynal@frlaw.us Attn: Daniel DeSouza Copycat Legal PLLC 3111 N. University Drive, Suite 301 Coral Springs, FL 33065 dan@copycatlegal.com

Attn: Eric Henzy Zeisler & Zeisler P.C. 10 Middle Street, 15th Floor Bridgeport, CT 06604 ehenzy@zeislaw.com Attn: Ryan E. Chapple
Cain & Skarnulis PLLC
303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850
Austin, Texas 78701
rchapple@cstrial.com

Attn: Shelby Jordan Jordan & Ortiz, P.C. 500 N. Shoreline Blvd. Suite 900 Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 sjordan@jhwclaw.com Attn: Randy W. Williams Byman & Associates PLLC 7924 Broadway, Suite 104 Pearland, TX 77581 rww@bymanlaw.com Attn: Jarrod B. Martin Chamberlain Hrdlicka 1200 Smith Street, Suite 1400 Houston, TX 77002 jarrod.martin@chamberlinlaw.com

Attn: Christopher J. Dylla Assistant Attorney General Bankruptcy & Collections Division PO Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548 christopher.dylla@oag.texas.gov Melissa Haselden Subchapter V Trustee 700 Milam, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77002 mhaselden@haseldenfarro.com

Attn: Ha M. Nguyen, Jayson B. Ruff Office of U.S. Trustee 515 Rusk, Suite 3516 Houston, TX 77002 <a href="mailto:ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov">ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov</a> jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov

### **USPS Service List**

### **Twenty Largest Unsecured Creditors**

Elevated Solutions Group 28 Maplewood Drive Cos Cob, CT 06870

Christopher Sadowski c/o Copycat Legal PLLC 3111 N. University Drive STE 301 Coral Springs, FL 33065

Atomial LLC 1920 E. Riverside Dr. Suite A-120 #124 Austin, TX 78741

Cloudflare, Inc Dept LA 24609

Pasadena, CA 91185-4609

Jacquelyn Blott 200 University Blvd Suite 225 #251 Round Rock, TX 78665

Joel Skousen PO Box 565 Spring City, UT 84662 Commerce CDN, LLC 221 E 63rd Street Savannah, GA 31405

Paul Watson 9 Riverdale Road Ranmoor Sheffield South Yorkshire S10 3FA United Kingdom

Brennan Gilmore c/o Civil rights Clinic 600 New Jersey Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001 Greenair, Inc 23569 Center Ridge Rd Westlake, OH 44145

Edgecast, Inc Dept CH 18120 Palatine, IL 60055

Ready Alliance Group, Inc PO Box 1709 Sandpoint, ID 83864 Getty Images, Inc PO Box 953604

St. Louis, MO 63195-3604

RatsMedical.com c/o Rapid Medical 120 N Redwood Rd

North Salt Lake, UT 84054

David Icke Books Limited c/o Ickonic Enterprises Limited St. Helen's House King Street

Derby DE1 3EE United Kingdom

WWCR 1300 WWCR Ave Nashville, TN 37218-3800 JW JIB Productions, LLC 2921 Carvelle Drive Riviera Beach, FL 33404 CustomTattoNow.com 16107 Kensington Dr. #172 Sugar Land, TX 77479

AT&T PO Box 5001

Carol Stream, IL 60197-5001

Justin Lair 1313 Lookout Ave Klamath Falls, OR 97601

### **Parties Claiming Interest or Lien Affected**

PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC c/o Stephen Lemmon 1801 S. Mopac Expressway Suite 320 Austin, TX 78746

### **Parties Filing Notice of Appearance**

Ryan E. Chapple Cain & Skarnulis PLLC 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850 Austin, Texas 78701

Randy W. Williams Byman & Associates PLLC 7924 Broadway, Suite 104 Pearland, TX 77581

Attn: Shelby Jordan Jordan & Ortiz, P.C. 500 N. Shoreline Bly

500 N. Shoreline Blvd. Suite 900 Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

Jarrod B. Martin Chamberlain Hrdlicka 1200 Smith Street, Suite 1400 Houston, TX 77002

Christopher J. Dylla Assistant Attorney General Bankruptcy & Collections Division PO Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

### **Subchapter V Trustee**

Melissa Haselden Subchapter V Trustee 700 Milam, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77002

### **U.S. Trustee**

Attn: Ha M. Nguyen, Jayson B. Ruff Office of the U.S. Trustee 515 Rusk Ave STE 3516 Houston, TX 77002

### **Additional Notice Parties**

Attn: Mark Bankson, William Ogden Kaster Lynch Farrar & Ball, LLP 1117 Herkimer Street Houston, TX 77008 Attn: Alinor C. Sterling, Christopher Mattei, Matthew Blumenthal Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Avenue Bridgeport, CT 0660

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC.,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	Š	•
Debtor.	§	

### ORDER MODIFYING INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR'S USE OF CASH COLLATERAL AND PROVIDING PARTIAL ADEQUATE PROTECTION

On August 11, 2022, the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "<u>Debtor</u>" or "<u>FSS</u>") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "<u>Case</u>"), filed its *Emergency Motion to Amend Interim Order Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral* after due deliberation and consideration and sufficient cause appearing therefor;

### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. <u>Motion Granted</u>. The Motion is hereby granted on an interim basis as set forth herein.
- 2. <u>Interim Order</u>. The Interim Order shall be modified as follows:

The Debtor is authorized to instruct its credit card processor to remit to Blue Ascension, LLC its fulfillment charges as set forth in the Motion, from the daily settlement contemporaneously with the distributions to FSS and PQPR

- 3. <u>Reporting</u>. The Debtor shall report each Tuesday for the preceding calendar week reflecting weekly sales and disbursement of the proceeds of those sales. A copy of the report shall be forwarded to the U.S. Trustee, the Subchapter V Trustee, counsel for PQPR and Jarrod Martin as a representative of the Connecticut and Texas plaintiffs.
- 4. The remaining terms, findings and provisions of the Interim Order are not amended or modified and remain in effect.

Houston, Texas	
Dated: August, 2022	
	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:	§	Case No. 22-60043
	§	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	
Debtor.	§	

### CONNECTICUT FAMILIES' OBJECTION TO DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO AMEND INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CASH COLLATERAL

David Wheeler, Francine Wheeler, Jacqueline Barden, Mark Barden, Nicole Hockley, Ian Hockley, Jennifer Hensel, Donna Soto, Carlee Soto Parisi, Carlos M. Soto, Jillian Soto-Marino, William Aldenberg, William Sherlach, and Robert Parker (collectively, the Connecticut Families) file this objection (Objection) to *Debtor's Emergency Motion to Amend Interim Order Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral* (Emergency Motion) [Dkt. 55]<sup>1</sup>. The Connecticut Families respectfully state as follows:

### I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. In a vacuum, the Connecticut Families do not oppose reasonable adjustments to Free Speech Systems, LLC's (FSS or the Debtor) interim cash collateral order to help generate increased revenues. But the Debtor's Emergency Motion, filed and set for hearing on barely 24 hours' notice, raises serious questions about the Debtor's operations and its relationship with a fulfillment-operations provider, Blue Ascension, LLC (Blue Ascension). Blue Ascension was formed just weeks before this bankruptcy filing and, as the Debtor admits, was founded by its former employee with a staff wholly comprised of the Debtor's former fulfillment department. The Court and the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Debtor's Emergency Motion fails to comply with Bankruptcy Local Rule 9013-1(i) as it does not contain "a detailed statement of why an emergency exists, and the date relief is needed to avoid the consequences of the emergency." The Emergency Motion is also not certified for its accuracy as is required by the rule.

Debtor's creditors are entitled to evidence supporting the Debtor's claims and transparency before any relief is granted.

### II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The Court has jurisdiction over the Emergency Motion under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. The Emergency Motion is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A) and (G). Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

### III. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

- 3. On July 29, 2022, the Debtor filed its voluntary petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code.
- 4. On that same date, the Debtor filed its *Emergency Motion for an Interim* and Final Order (I) Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to Sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(b) and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Pre-Petition Secured Lender (the Cash Collateral Motion) [Dkt. 6].
- 5. On August 3, 2022, the Court heard the Cash Collateral Motion, which was granted in part, authorizing the use of cash collateral with certain modifications to the budget in the Cash Collateral Motion. The *Interim Order Authorizing the Debtor's Use of Cash Collateral and Providing Partial Adequate Protection* (the Interim Order) [Dkt. 41] was entered by the Court on August 5, 2022.
- 6. On August 11, 2022, the Debtor moved to amend the Interim Order to instruct the credit-card processor to withhold from the daily settlement \$20 per order shipped and remit those funds directly to Blue Ascension, while also remitting the appropriate percentage of collected funds to the Debtor and PQPR Holdings Limited LLC.

7. Before moving to amend, the Debtor had not once disclosed Blue Ascension's history and connection with the Debtor to the Court or the creditors.

### IV. OBJECTION

- 6. The Debtor's Emergency Motion contends that the 13-Week Cash Collateral Budget (the Budget) attached to its Cash Collateral Motion failed to consider the ramifications of an increase in product sales that occurred since its bankruptcy filing. And for that reason, the Debtor seeks this Court's blessing to instruct its unnamed credit-card processor "to withhold from the daily settlement \$20 per order shipped and remit those funds directly to Blue Ascension, at the same time it remits the appropriate percentage of collected funds to FSS and PQPR."
- 7. But the Debtor fails to provide any evidence of its alleged increased sales that would substantiate the need for this change, which essentially greenlights unlimited direct payments to a "fulfillment logistics company" that the Debtor's counsel represents (1) was founded and is owned by a former FSS employee, (2) was formed only weeks ago in mid-July, and (3) is staffed only with the Debtor's former-fulfillment staff. The Debtor's counsel also represented that the Debtor previously handled fulfillment in-house and just began doing business with Blue Ascension on July 18th or 19th. The Debtor's Emergency Motion fails to explain why this significant change was made to its operations just days before it filed for bankruptcy. Nor does it address what analysis it performed, if any, to determine that outsourcing its fulfillment operations is the most cost-effective means of fulfilling that operational need—after performing these operations in-house for years. And, of course, these concerns rest against a backdrop in which the Debtor offers no evidence of a contract between it and Blue Ascension.

8. The Debtor only represents that "Alex Jones has no equity or any other stake or interest in Blue Ascension" but fails to affirm the same about Alex Jones's family members, insiders, or affiliated entities, or that none of these parties receive compensation from Blue Ascension. The Debtor should provide sufficient evidence to show this Court and its creditors that it has a legitimate arm's length relationship with Blue Ascension and the modifications it seeks in its Emergency Motion is not just a vehicle to drain money from the Estate and divert it to Alex Jones or others.

### V. CONCLUSION

The circumstances here warrant that this Debtor answer all the questions raised in this Objection. If it fails to do so, and for the reasons stated above, the Connecticut Families respectfully request that this Court deny the relief sought in the Debtor's Emergency Motion.

Respectfully submitted this 12th day of August 2022.

<u>/s/ Ryan E. Chappl</u>e

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ATTORNEYS FOR WHEELER, ET AL.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Objection has been served on counsel for Debtor, Debtor, and all parties receiving or entitled to notice through CM/ECF on this 12th day of August 2022.

/s/ Ryan E. Chapple
Ryan E. Chapple

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

§	Case No. 22-60043
§	
§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
§	•
§	
	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

# ORDER DENYING DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO AMEND INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CASH COLLATERAL

On August 11, 2022, the Debtor filed its *Emergency Motion to Amend Interim*Order Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral (the Emergency Motion) [Dkt. 55]. The

Emergency Motion was heard on August 12, 2022, and after considering the Emergency

Motion, any objections, and arguments of counsel, it is hereby ORDERED THAT:

1. The Emergency Motion is DENIED.

Dated:	, 2022	
	IINITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE	

## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	Case No. 22–60043
	§	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11
	§	Subchapter V
Debtor.	<b>§</b>	

# TEXAS PLAINTIFFS' JOINDER TO THE CONNECTICUT PLAINTIFFS' OBJECTION TO DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO AMEND INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CASH COLLATERAL

Texas Plaintiffs Neil Heslin, Scarlett Lewis, Leonard Pozner, Veronique De La Rosa, and Marcel Fontaine object to the *Debtor's Emergency Motion to Amend the Interim Order Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral* ("**Emergency Motion**") (ECF No. 55) and file this joinder to the Connecticut Plaintiffs' Objection (ECF No. 56).

The Debtor's Emergency Motion should be denied. The Connecticut Plaintiffs' Objection to the Emergency Motion already details the legitimate questions swirling around Debtor's relationship with Blue Ascension. These questions include: (1) why the Debtor outsourced its fulfillment services to Blue Ascension on the cusp of bankruptcy, (2) why the Debtor doesn't have a written contract with Blue Ascension, (3) what due diligence the Debtor undertook in hiring Blue Ascension, and (4) what financial benefits Alex Jones and his insiders receive from paying Blue Ascension to perform fulfillment services the Debtor performed in-house for years. Equally, important, the Connecticut Plaintiffs rightly questioned whether an emergency actually exists—especially since no evidence was offered to prove that the Debtor has in fact enjoyed bustling business these past few days that requires amending the cash-collateral order. Indeed, the Debtor has not only neglected to offer *any* evidence in support of its emergency motion but also failed to

comply with local rules requiring that emergency motions be certified for their accuracy. Rather than regurgitate the points raised in the Connecticut Plaintiffs' Objection, it suffices to say that the Texas Plaintiffs adopt and join the Objection in full.

The Debtor asks this Court to essentially endorse a blank check to a company the parties know nothing about. And the reason nothing is known is because the Debtor has offered no information about this company. It provided no such information in its first-day motions, its first-day hearing (even though its CRO testified for hours without ever mentioning Blue Ascension), or even its emergency motion to amend where it has literally offered no evidence to support its request. The Court should decline the Debtor's request to spend its limited assets on a whim.

For these reasons, and the reasons raised in the Connecticut Plaintiffs' Objection, the Texas Plaintiffs respectfully ask that Emergency Motion be denied.

Dated: August 12, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

### McDowell Hetherington LLP

Avi Moshenberg Texas Bar No. 24083532 1001 Fannin Street Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002 P: 713-337-5580

F: 713-337-8850

E: avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com

### Counsel for the Texas Plaintiffs

AND

<sup>.</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Bankruptcy Local Rule 9013-1(i) (""Some judges allow self-calendaring of emergency motions through the judge's web page. If self-calendaring is not authorized, requests for emergency hearings may be made in the pleading requesting the relief. No separate motion requesting an emergency hearing is required. The emergency motion must contain the word "Emergency" in the title of the motion. The motion must include a detailed statement why an emergency exists, and the date relief is needed to avoid the consequences of the emergency. The motion seeking an emergency hearing must be certified for its accuracy by the party seeking the emergency relief or by its counsel. . . .") (emphasis added).

## CHAMBERLAIN, HRDLICKA, WHITE, WILLIAMS & AUGHTRY, PC

By: /s/ Jarrod B. Martin
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Bankruptcy Counsel for the Texas Plaintiff

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that on August 12, 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice was served electronically on all parties registered to receive electronic notice of filings in this case via this Court's ECF notification system.

/s/ Jarrod B. Martin
Jarrod B. Martin

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§ &	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Case No. 2260043
DERTOR	§	(Cubabantan V Dabtan
DEBTOR.	9 §	(Subchapter V Debtor Chapter 11

# WITNESS AND EXHIBIT LIST FOR HEARING ON DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO AMEND INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CASH COLLATERAL [ECF. NO. 51]

Judge:	Hon. Christopher M. Lopez
Hearing Date:	Friday, August 12, 2022
Hearing Time:	1:00 p.m. (CT)
Party's Name:	Free Speech Systems, LLC
Attorney's Name:	Raymond W. Battaglia, Kyung S. Lee
Attorney's Phone:	(210) 601-9405; (713) 301-4751
Nature of Proceeding:	Hearing on:  • Emergency Motion to Amend Interim Order Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral [Docket No. 51]

The Law Offices of Raymond W. Battaglia (the "Battaglia Firm"), general bankruptcy counsel for Free Speech Systems, LLC (the "Debtor") and Shannon & Lee LLP ("S&L") proposed co-counsel to the Debtor, in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case"), hereby submit this witness and exhibit list in connection with the hearing to be held on Friday, August 11, 2022 at 1:00 P.M.(Central Time) (the "Hearing") on the pleading listed below.

• Emergency Motion to Amend Interim Order Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral [Docket No. 51].

### **WITNESSES**

The Debtor may call any of the following witnesses at the Hearing, whether in person or by proffer:

- 1. W. Marc Schwartz, Chief Restructuring Officer of Free Speech Systems, LLC;
- 2. Patrick Reiley, Member, Blue Asension Logistics LLC;
- 3. Any witnesses necessary to establish notice of the Hearing has been provided; and
- 4. Any witnesses necessary to rebut the testimony of any witnesses called or designated by any other parties.

### **EXHIBITS**

The Debtor may offer for admission into evidence any of the following exhibits at the hearing:

Ex.	Description	Offered	Objection	Admitted /Not Admitted	Disposition
1	Emergency Motion to Amend Interim Order Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral [Docket No. 51].				
2	13-Week Cash Collateral Budget				
3	Blue Asension Logistics Price List				

The Debtor reserves the right to supplement, amend or delete any witness and exhibits prior to the Hearing. The Debtor also reserves the right to use any exhibits presented by any other party and to ask the Court to take judicial notice of any document. The Debtor finally reserves the right to introduce exhibits previously admitted.

Respectfully submitted the 12th day of August, 2022.

### LAW OFFICES OF RAY BATTAGLIA, PLLC

/s/ RAYMOND W. BATTAGLIA
Raymond W. Battaglia
State Bar No. 01918055
rbattaglialaw@outlook.com
66 Granburg Circle
San Antonio, Texas 78218
Tel. (210) 601-9405

Proposed Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor-In-Possession

-and-

### SHANNON & LEE LLP

/s/ Kyung S. Lee
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rshannon@shannonleellp.com
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Tel. (713) 714-5770

Proposed Co-Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor in Possession

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

A true and correct copy of the foregoing document was filed with the Court and served electronically upon those parties registered to receive electronic notice via the Court's CM/ECF system, as set forth below. I further certify that it has been transmitted by first class mail to the parties on the attached service list.

/s/ Raymond W. Battaglia
Raymond W. Battaglia

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC.,	Š	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	- ,
Debtor.	§	

## DEBTOR'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO AMEND INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CASH COLLATERAL

THIS MOTION SEEKS AN ORDER THAT MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOU. IF YOU OPPOSE THE MOTION, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE MOVING PARTY TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE. IF YOU AND THE MOVING PARTY CANNOT AGREE, YOU MUST FILE A RESPONSE AND SEND A COPY TO THE MOVING PARTY. YOU MUST FILE AND SERVE YOUR RESPONSE WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE THIS WAS SERVED ON YOU. YOUR RESPONSE MUST STATE WHY THE MOTION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED. IF YOU DO NOT FILE A TIMELY RESPONSE, THE RELIEF MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU. IF YOU OPPOSE THE MOTION AND HAVE NOT REACHED AN AGREEMENT, YOU MUST ATTEND THE HEARING. UNLESS THE PARTIES AGREE OTHERWISE, THE COURT MAY CONSIDER EVIDENCE AT THE HEARING AND MAY DECIDE THE MOTION AT THE HEARING.

EMERGENCY RELIEF HAS BEEN REQUESTED, IF THE COURT CONSIDERS THE MOTION ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS, THEN YOU WILL HAVE LESS THAN 21 DAYS TO ANSWER, IF YOU OBJECT TO THE REQUESTED RELIEF OR IF YOU BELIEVE THAT THE EMERGENCY CONSIDERATION IS NOT WARRANTED, YOU SHOULD FILE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE. REPRESENTED PARTIES SHOULD ACT THROUGH THEIR ATTORNEY.

AUDIO COMMUNICATION WILL BE BY USE OF THE COURT'S DIAL IN FACILITY. YOU MAY ACCESS THE FACILITY AT 832-917-1510. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN LONG-DISTANCE CHARGES. ONCE CONNECTED, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO ENTER THE CONFERENCE ROOM NUMBER. JUDGE LOPEZ' CONFERENCE ROOM NUMBER IS 590153. YOU MAY VIEW VIDEO VIA GOTOMEETING. TO USE GOTOMEETING, THE COURT RECOMMENDS THAT YOU DOWNLOAD THE FREE GOTOMEETING APPLICATION. TO CONNECT, YOU SHOULD ENTER THE MEETING CODE "JUDGELOPEZ" IN THE GOTOMEETTING APP OR CLICK THE LINK ON JUDGE LOPEZ'S HOME PAGE IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS WEBSITE. ONCE CONNECTED, CLICK THE SETTINGS ICON IN THE UPPER RIGHT-HAND CORNER AND ENTER YOUR NAME UNDER PERSONAL INFORMATION SETTING.

REPRESENTED PARTIES SHOULD ACT THROUGH THEIR ATTORNEY.

### TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

The above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "Debtor" or "FSS"), in the

EXHIBIT

ownipitaticker.com

above-referenced chapter 11 case, hereby files this emergency motion (the "Motion") seeking an order modifying this Court's Interim Order Authorizing Debtor's Use of Cash Collateral and Providing Adequate Protection (the "Interim Order") [Dkt No. 41]. In further support of the Motion, the Debtor respectfully represents as follows:

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 1. On July 29, 2022 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), the Debtor commenced the above captioned case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code §§ 101, *et seq.* (the "Bankruptcy Code").
- 2. The Debtor continues in the possession of its property and is operating and managing its businesses as debtor and debtor-in-possession pursuant to Section 1182(2) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. No request for a trustee or examiner has been made. No statutory committee of creditors has been appointed.
- 4. This Court has jurisdiction over this Motion under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). Venue of this proceeding and this Motion are proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 5. The statutory bases for the relief sought in this Motion are 11 U.S.C. §§ 105, 361, and 363 and Rule 4001(b) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

### BACKGROUND<sup>1</sup>

6. FSS filed its Emergency Motion for an Interim and Final Order (I) Authorizing the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Additional factual background and information regarding the Debtor and its operations is set forth in the *Declaration of W. Marc Schwartz in Support of Voluntary Petition and First Day Motions* 

Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(b) and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Pre-Petition Secured Lender (the "Cash Collateral Motion").

- 7. This Court held a hearing on the Cash Collateral Motion on August 3, 2022. The Cash Collateral Motion incorporated a 13-Week Cash Collateral Budget (the "Budget"). At the hearing, the Court authorized the use of cash collateral with certain modifications to the Budget and other conditions which were incorporated into the Interim Order.
- 8. A critical component of FSS's sales business is FSS's ability to fill the orders when the customer purchases the product from the InfowarsStore.com website. When a customer purchases a product, they are charged a shipping fee as part of the sales price. Therefore, an expectation is created that the customer will receive his product on a reasonable delivery schedule. If the product is not fulfilled and delay occurs in shipping the product, the chance increases that the customer may ask for a refund or cancel the order. An excessive amount of cancellation of orders is catastrophic to FSS's business and revenue generation. If orders do not timely ship, customers will cancel orders triggering chargebacks on credit cards and a pattern of chargebacks will adversely affect credit card processing, including possible termination of credit card processing services.
- 9. FSS is facing a crisis in being able to fulfill product sales, as the Budget was prepared in a conservative fashion and did not anticipate a surge in sales of the magnitude actually experienced and the resulting increase in the need for a larger fulfillment budget. The Budget authorized the Debtor to use \$95,278 (with a 10% variance that amounts to \$104,800) of cash collateral to pay fulfillment costs to Blue Ascension, LLC. ("Blue Ascension").
  - 10. First, Alex Jones has no equity or any other stake or interest in Blue Ascension.

Second, Patrick Riley, a former employee of FSS, started Blue Ascension in order to be a specialized fulfillment logistics company. Third, FSS pays Blue Ascension to handle all FSS order fulfillment operations.

- Blue Ascension charges a per piece rate for fulfillment of \$20 per order. For this, Blue Ascension provides a range of services, including handling of receipt of inventory shipments, stocking shelves, picking merchandise for orders, boxing, and shipping orders. Of the cost of fulfillment, more than \$14 consists of shipping costs. Customers are billed an average of \$13.24 per order for shipping and handling,
- 12. But Blue Ascension will not incur shipping costs until it is first paid by FSS for such costs. Blue Ascension, therefore, will not ship products ordered until receipt of the fulfillment charge from the Debtor.
- 13. The Budget projected weekly revenues of \$595,489. FSS projected that weekly revenue amount based on sales for the week ended July 22 (times 1.25%), the first full week following receipt of new product and the last week for which sales figures were available prior to the Petition Date (July 29, 2022). Actual sales have far exceeded the budgeted sales projections, for a number of reasons, including the receipt of new inventory (FSS had lacked product to sell for some time). For the week ended July 29, FSS actual sales revenue was \$961,918. For the week ended August 5 (the first week the bankruptcy was pending), FSS actual sales revenue was \$898,869. So far this week (we only have sales figures for Monday) FSS sales continue at an \$800,000 a week pace.
- 14. On top of actual sales being robust as compared to budget, the Debtor anticipates receipt of long back ordered inventory and new products that should sell quickly. According to the CRO, orders could increase beyond the current level of sales, and perhaps increase to as high

as \$450,000 *per day*, as contrasted with \$595,489 *per week*.

- 15. While this is good news on the one hand, it could be catastrophically dangerous if FSS cannot timely fulfill these new orders. The use a "static" model to project fulfillment costs in the Budget has led to serious under-budgeting of this expense item of the Debtor's business.
- 16. With higher than projected sales, it has become clear to the CRO that the budgeted fulfillment costs are inadequate and the inability to pay fulfillment costs as they are incurred will result in damage to the business unless it is cured now.
- 17. On August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Debtor become aware of issues with the budget arising from the inadequate funding of fulfillment costs due to the significant growth in orders, as discussed in greater detail *infra*.
- Debtor's management began to assess the scale of the issue while Debtor's counsel contacted counsel for PQPR Holdings Limited LLC ("PQPR"), the secured lender, the subchapter V Trustee, the U.S. Trustee and joint counsel for the litigation plaintiffs. All were advised of the nature and scope of the issue by email dated August 11, 2022.
- 19. PQPR consents to the relief requested in the Motion. The Subchapter V Trustee, based on phone conversation, does not oppose the relief requested in the Motion, and suggested the Debtor seek consent form joint counsel for litigation plaintiffs and U.S. Trustee. The Debtor has not heard back from these two parties as of filing of this Motion.

### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

20. In order to eliminate the need to use a static budget (which does not allow the Debtor to capture for the increase in fulfillment costs when sales increase), the Debtor proposes to instruct the credit card processor to withhold from the daily settlement \$20.00 per order shipped

and remit those funds directly to Blue Ascension, at the same time it remits the appropriate percentage of collected funds to FSS and PQPR. There will be no net effect to the Debtor's bottom line by implementing this change, however the increased sales volume will be accretive to the ending cash balance.

- 21. The Debtor believed that this solution is one FSS could adopt in the ordinary course of its business. In an abundance of caution, the Debtor has been transparent with creditor and parties in interest and now seeks an order of this Court modifying the Interim Order to authorize implementation of the proposed solution set forth above effective with the sales reported for Wednesday, August 10, 2022.
- 22. The Debtor further proposes to submit to the U.S. Trustee, the Subchapter V Trustee, counsel for PQPR and Jarred Martin as a representative of the Connecticut and Texas plaintiffs a report each Tuesday reporting sales and the allocation of distributions of those proceeds for the preceding week.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Debtor respectfully requests the Court enter an Order granting the relief requested and granting such other and further relief as the Court may deem proper.

### Respectfully submitted.

### LAW OFFICES OF RAY BATTAGLIA, PLLC

### /S/ RAYMOND W. BATTAGLIA

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Proposed Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor-In-Possession

-and-

### SHANNON & LEE LLP

### /s/ Kyung S. Lee

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Tel. (713) 714-5770

Proposed Co-Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor in Possession

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served by (a) the Court's CM/ECF system on all parties registered to receive such service on the date of filing, (b) by U.S.P.S. first class mail on all parties indicated in the attached service list within 24 hours of the filing, and (c) the following parties by email on the date of filing:

### /s/Raymond W. Battaglia

Raymond W. Battaglia

Attn: Mark Bankson, William Ogden Kaster Lynch Farrar & Ball, LLP 1117 Herkimer Street Houston, TX 77008 mark@fbtrial.com bill@fbtrial.com

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Attn: Shelby Jordan Jordan & Ortiz, P.C. 500 N. Shoreline Blvd. Suite 900 Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 sjordan@jhwclaw.com Attn: Avi Moshenberg McDowell Heterhington LLP 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002 avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com

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Attn: Randy W. Williams Byman & Associates PLLC 7924 Broadway, Suite 104 Pearland, TX 77581 rww@bymanlaw.com Attn: Jarrod B. Martin Chamberlain Hrdlicka 1200 Smith Street, Suite 1400 Houston, TX 77002 jarrod.martin@chamberlinlaw.com

Attn: Christopher J. Dylla Assistant Attorney General Bankruptcy & Collections Division PO Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548 christopher.dylla@oag.texas.gov Melissa Haselden Subchapter V Trustee 700 Milam, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77002 mhaselden@haseldenfarro.com

Attn: Ha M. Nguyen, Jayson B. Ruff Office of U.S. Trustee 515 Rusk, Suite 3516 Houston, TX 77002 <a href="mailto:ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov">ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov</a> jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov

### **USPS Service List**

### **Twenty Largest Unsecured Creditors**

Elevated Solutions Group 28 Maplewood Drive Cos Cob, CT 06870

Christopher Sadowski c/o Copycat Legal PLLC 3111 N. University Drive STE 301 Coral Springs, FL 33065

Atomial LLC 1920 E. Riverside Dr. Suite A-120 #124 Austin, TX 78741

Cloudflare, Inc Dept LA 24609

Pasadena, CA 91185-4609

Jacquelyn Blott 200 University Blvd Suite 225 #251

Round Rock, TX 78665

Joel Skousen PO Box 565 Spring City, UT 84662 Commerce CDN, LLC 221 E 63rd Street Savannah, GA 31405

Paul Watson 9 Riverdale Road Ranmoor Sheffield South Yorkshire S10 3FA United Kingdom

Brennan Gilmore c/o Civil rights Clinic 600 New Jersey Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001 Greenair, Inc 23569 Center Ridge Rd Westlake, OH 44145

Edgecast, Inc Dept CH 18120 Palatine, IL 60055

Ready Alliance Group, Inc PO Box 1709 Sandpoint, ID 83864 Getty Images, Inc PO Box 953604

St. Louis, MO 63195-3604

RatsMedical.com c/o Rapid Medical 120 N Redwood Rd

North Salt Lake, UT 84054

David Icke Books Limited c/o Ickonic Enterprises Limited St. Helen's House King Street

Derby DE1 3EE United Kingdom

WWCR 1300 WWCR Ave Nashville, TN 37218-3800 JW JIB Productions, LLC 2921 Carvelle Drive Riviera Beach, FL 33404 CustomTattoNow.com 16107 Kensington Dr. #172 Sugar Land, TX 77479

AT&T PO Box 5001

Carol Stream, IL 60197-5001

Justin Lair 1313 Lookout Ave Klamath Falls, OR 97601

### **Parties Claiming Interest or Lien Affected**

PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC c/o Stephen Lemmon 1801 S. Mopac Expressway Suite 320 Austin, TX 78746

### **Parties Filing Notice of Appearance**

Ryan E. Chapple Cain & Skarnulis PLLC 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850 Austin, Texas 78701

Randy W. Williams Byman & Associates PLLC 7924 Broadway, Suite 104 Pearland, TX 77581

Attn: Shelby Jordan Jordan & Ortiz, P.C. 500 N. Shoreline Blvd. Suite 900 Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 Jarrod B. Martin Chamberlain Hrdlicka 1200 Smith Street, Suite 1400 Houston, TX 77002

Christopher J. Dylla Assistant Attorney General Bankruptcy & Collections Division PO Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

### **Subchapter V Trustee**

Melissa Haselden Subchapter V Trustee 700 Milam, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77002

### **U.S. Trustee**

Attn: Ha M. Nguyen, Jayson B. Ruff Office of the U.S. Trustee 515 Rusk Ave STE 3516 Houston, TX 77002

### **Additional Notice Parties**

Attn: Mark Bankson, William Ogden Kaster Lynch Farrar & Ball, LLP 1117 Herkimer Street Houston, TX 77008 Attn: Alinor C. Sterling, Christopher Mattei, Matthew Blumenthal Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Avenue Bridgeport, CT 0660

				•	orecasted Between	Free Speech Systems LLC Forecasted 13 Week Cash Flow Budget Between July 30, 2022 and October 28, 2022	Stems LLC Cash Flow nd October 28, 20	Budget						
Period+A5:E83 07/30/2022- 08/05/2022	07/30/2022- 08/05/2022	08/06/2022- 08/12/2022	08/13/2022- 08/19/2022	08/20/2022- 08/26/2022	08/27/2022- 09/02/2022	09/03/2022- 09/09/2022	09/10/2022- 09/16/2022	/17/2022- /23/2022	09/24/2022- 09/30/2022	10/01/2022- 10/07/2022	10/08/2022-	10/15/2022- 10/21/2022	10/22/2022- 10/28/2022	Total
Week Number	1	7	т	4	r.	9	7	∞			11	12	13	
Income														
Product Sales Advertising	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01 480,166.46	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01 480,166.46	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01 480,166.46	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 7,741,357.16 1,440,499.38
Donations	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	40,836.21
Total Income	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26	9,222,692.75
Selling & Product Costs														
Inventory Purchase	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(990,017.27)
Repay PQPR Inventory	1 10	(250,000.00)		1 10	1 10	1 10	1 10	1 10	1 10	1 10	1 10	1 10	1	(250,000.00)
Merchant Account Fees Shinning cost for drop ship orders	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(348,361.07)
Suipping Cost for all op suip of dels Fulfillment Services	(7,911.81)	(7,311.81)	(7,311.81)	(7,311.61)	(7,311.61)	(7,311.61)	(7,311.61)	(7,311.61)	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)	(7,311.61)	(1,911.61)	(1,238,617.15)
Processor Fees	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(309,654.29)
eCommerce Store Maintenance	(27,270.00)	•			(27,270.00)		1		(27,270.00)		1	•		(81,810.00)
Texas Sales Tax	(5,337.87)		-		(5,337.87)				(5,337.87)	-	- 100 500 0007	-	-	(16,013.61)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	(797,269.67)		(4/9,961.80) (229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(79.595,297)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(797,293.67)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(3,337,326.97)
Operating Expenses														
Advertising & Florington	(201705)	,	,	,	(3 0 4 1 9 8)	,	,	,	(20 170 6)	,	,	,	,	(0 175 02)
Advertising & Fromotion Print Media	(3,041.38)				(3,041.98)				(3,041.38)					(9,123.93)
Radio Show Advertising	(11,500.00)	٠		•	(11,500.00)	٠	٠	•	(11,500.00)	٠	٠	•	٠	(34,500.00)
Total Advertising & Promotion	(17,541.98)				(17,541.98)				(17,541.98)					(52,625.93)
Computer/IT/IP Expense														
Internet & TV services	(2,082.90)	•	(1,608.39)	•	(2,082.90)	•	(1,608.39)	•	(2,082.90)	•	•	(1,608.39)	1	(11,073.89)
Software License Fees	(140.80)	•		•	(140.80)	•	•	•	(140.80)	•	•	•	•	(422.40)
Server Hosting Service	(28,595.13)	•	•	•	(28,595.13)	•	•		(28,595.13)		•			(85,785.40)
CDN Video Cloud Storage	(55,728.00)	•	•		(55,728.00)				(55,728.00)		,			(167,184.00)
Satellite Sel Vice	(15/,262.95)				(157,762,95)				(157,762.95)					(411,646.76)
inidging cicense ree Software & Apps	(5,201.23)				(5,700,00)				(5,000,000)					(15,000,00)
Website Hosting	(00:000(0)	٠	(266.50)	٠	(20:00)(5)	٠	(266.50)	,	(00:000(0)	٠	٠	(266,50)	,	(799.50)
Total Computer/IT/IP Expense	(238,031.01)		(1,874.89)		(238,031.01)		(1,874.89)		(238,031.01)			(1,874.89)		(719,717.72)
Insurance	(2,166.50)	•	1	•	(2,166.50)	•	•	•	(2,166.50)	•	•	1		(6,499.50)
Office & Administrative Expense												1		1
Bank Fees & Service Charges	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)		(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(596.74)
Equipment Kental Office Supplies/Printing/Copy	(1,989.90) (7 10)	(0 10)	(0.10)	(01.7)	(1,989.90) (1,010)	- (01 2)	- (01 2)	(0.10)	(T,989.90)	(01.7)	(01.7)	(0 10)	(0.10)	(5,969.69)
Business Meals	(280.46)	(280.46)	(280.46)		(2	(2	(2	(2	(280.46)	(280.46)	(280.46)	(280.46)	(280.46)	(3,645.97)
Total Office & Administrative Expense	(2,318.36)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(2,318.36)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(2,318.36)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(10,239.71)
Outsourced Services	•			٠	٠	٠	٠	٠		٠		٠		
Consulting Services	•	1	,	,	,	•	•		,	1	,	(12,000.00)	•	(12,000.00)
Utilities														
Utility Deposit	(10,000.00)													
Electricity	' '	•	(5,107.63)	•	' '	•	(5,107.63)		' '			(5,107.63)		(15,322.89)
HVAC	(256.19)				(256.19)				(256.19)					(768.58)
CAIM Charges	(20,364.15)			•	(20,364.15)				(20,364.16)					(61,092.48)
Water & sewer	(132 08)				(132 09)				(132 09)					(3,123.00)
Pest Control	(244.65)	,	,	,	(244.65)	,	•	1	(244.65)	,	,	,	,	(733.95)
Waste Management	(351.81)	•	1	•	(351.81)	•	•	•	(351.81)	•	•	•	•	(1,055.43)
Total Utilities	(33,057.46)		(5,107.63)		(23,057.46)		(5,107.63)		(23,057.46)			(5,107.63)		(94,495.27)
								4						

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EXHIBIT

Forecasted 13 Week Cash Flow Budget	COOK OF THE COOK OF THE COOK OF

Period+A5:El	Period+A5:E83 07/30/2022- 08/05/2022	08/06/2022-	08/13/2022- 08/19/2022	08/20/2022-	08/27/2022-	<i>09/03/2022-</i> <i>09/09/2022</i>	09/10/2022- 09/16/2022	<i>09/17/2022-</i> <i>09/23/2022</i>	09/24/2022- 09/30/2022	10/01/2022- 10/07/2022	10/08/2022-	10/15/2022- 10/21/2022	10/22/2022- 10/28/2022	Total
Occupancy														
Rent	(33,408.51)	-	•	•	(33,408.51	- (1	•	•	(33,408.51)	•	•	•		(100,225.53)
Office Security	(31,111.90)	-	•	•	(31,111.90)	- (0	•	•	(31,111.90)	•	•	•	•	(93,335.69)
Repair & Maintenance - Building	(1,777.19)	-	•	•	(1,777.19)	- (6	•	•	(1,777.19)	•	•	•	•	(5,331.56)
Janitorial	(5,983.33)	-	•	•	(5,983.33)	- (8	•	•	(5,983.33)	•	•	•	•	(17,950.00)
Total Occupancy	(72,280.93)		•		(72,280.93)	- (8			(72,280.93)		٠			(216,842.78)
Supplies	(1,258.02)	-	•	•	(1,258.02)	- (;	•	•	(1,258.02)	•	•	•		(3,774.07)
Telephone	(18,337.88)	-	•		(18,337.88)	- (8	•	•	(18,337.88)	•	•	•		(55,013.65)
Personnel Expenses														
Salaries & Wages - Base	(168,467.44)	-	(168,467.44)	- (1	(168,467.44)	- (1	(168,467.44)	-	(168,467.44)	•	(168,467.44)	-	(168,467.44)	(1,179,272.08)
Payroll Tax	(13,087.76)	-	(13,087.76)	- (5	(13,087.76)	- (5	(13,087.76)	-	(13,087.76)	•	(13,087.76)	-	(13,087.76)	(91,614.31)
Alex Jones Salary	(10,000.00)	-	(10,000.00)	- (0	(10,000.00)	- (0	(10,000.00)	-	(10,000.00)	•	(10,000.00)	-	(10,000.00)	(70,000.00)
Total Personnel Expenses	(191,555.20)		(191,555.20)	- (0	(191,555.20)	- (0	(191,555.20)	- (	(191,555.20)		(191,555.20)	-	(191,555.20)	(1,340,886.39)
Travel														
Mileage/Parking/Tolls	(69.66)	(69.66) (	(69.66) (6	(69.66) (6	(69.66) (6	(69.66) (6	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)		(69.66) (	(69.66)	(1,295.98)
Vehicle Leases	•	(1,470.56)	- (6	•	•	(1,470.56)	- (	•	•	1	(1,470.56)	- (		(4,411.68)
Total Travel Expenses	(69.66)	(1,570.25)	(69:66)	(69.66) (6	(69:66) (6	9) (1,570.25)	(69:66)	(69:66)	(69.66)	(69:66)	(1,570.25)	(69:66)	(69'66)	(5,707.66)
Total Operating Expenses	(576,647.03)	(1,898.71)	(198,965.88)	3) (428.15)	5) (566,647.03)	(1,898.71)	(198,965.88)	(428.15)	(566,647.03)	(428.15)	(193,453.91)	(19,410.68)	(191,983.35)	(2,517,802.68)
Non-Operating Expenses														
Payment on PQPR Note	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(27,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(460,000.00)
AMEX Payment	•		•				•							
Total Other Expenses	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(27,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(460,000.00)
Professional Fees														
CRO Fees	•	•	•	•	•	•	(52,992.00)	-	(35,328.00)	•	•	•	•	(88,320.00)
Financial Adviosr Fee	•	•	•	•	•	•	(57,876.00)	-	(40,352.00)	•	•	•	•	(98, 228.00)
Shannon & Lee LLP	•	•	•	•	•	•	(40,000.00)	-	(60,000.00)	•	•	•	•	(100,000.00)
Ray Battaglia	•	-	•	•	•	•	(24,000.00)	- (	(24,000.00)	•	•	-	-	(48,000.00)
Total Professional Fees	•	•		•	•	•	(174,868.00)	- (	(159,680.00)	•	٠	-	-	(334,548.00)
Total Cash Flow	\$ (245,586.44	\$ 111,769.75	\$ (245,586.44) \$ 111,769.75 \$ 164,702.59 \$ 843,406.77	\$ 843,406.7.		\$ (258,086.44) \$ 339,269.75		\$ (60,165.41) \$ 793,406.77 \$ (445,266.44) \$ 313,240.31	\$ (445,266.44)	\$ 313,240.31	\$ 120,214.55	\$ 120,214.55 \$ 774,424.24	\$ 121,685.11	2,573,015.10



Price List

7/18/22

Average Shipping Cost \$14 per Package Average Fulfillment and Handling \$6 per Package

### **Included Services:**

- -Receiving
- -Storage
- -Unlimited Pick
- -Unlimited Pack
- -Order Inserting
- -Supplies
- -Returns
- -Cycle Counting/Inventory
- -Software & IT Integrations
- -Q.C. & Q.A.
- -Labor
- -Shipping Cost
- \*\* 90 Day Commitment
- \*\*All orders through Infowarsstore.com fulfilled by Blue Asension Logistics LLC
- \*\*Special Projects such as kitting, labeling/relabeling, etc. \$50/man-hour

EXHIBIT Sample of the state of the sample of

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:

\$
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,

\$
Case No. 22--60043

\$
DEBTOR.

\$
(Subchapter V Debtor)
Chapter 11

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the Debtor's Witness and Exhibit List and the Exhibits ECF No. 58 was served by (a) the Court's CM/ECF system on all parties registered to receive such service on August 12, 2022, (b) the following parties by email on August 12, 2022:

Attn: Mark Bankson, William Ogden Kaster Lynch Farrar & Ball, LLP 1117 Herkimer Street Houston, TX 77008 mark@fbtrial.com bill@fbtrial.com

Attn: Alinor C. Sterlin, Christopher Mattei, Matthew Blumenthal Koskoff Koskoff & Bieder 350 Fairfield Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604 <a href="mailto:asterling@koskoff.com">asterling@koskoff.com</a> <a href="mailto:mattei@koskoff.com">mattei@koskoff.com</a> <a href="mailto:mblumenthal@koskoff.com">mblumenthal@koskoff.com</a> <a href="mailto:mblumenthal@koskoff.com">mblumenthal@koskoff.com</a>

Attn: F. Andino Reynal Fertitta & Reynal LLP 917 Franklin St., Suite 600 Houston, TX 77002 areynal@frlaw.us

Attn: Eric Henzy Zeisler & Zeisler P.C. 10 Middle Street, 15th Floor Bridgeport, CT 06604 ehenzy@zeislaw.com Attn: Shelby Jordan Jordan & Ortiz, P.C. 500 N. Shoreline Blvd. Suite 900 Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 sjordan@jhwclaw.com

Attn: Avi Moshenberg McDowell Heterhington LLP 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002 avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com

Attn: Cordt Akers
The Akers Law Firm PLLC
Cordt Akers
3401 Allen Parkway, Suite 101
Houston, TX 77019
cca@akersfirm.com

Attn: Daniel DeSouza Copycat Legal PLLC 3111 N. University Drive, Suite 301 Coral Springs, FL 33065 dan@copycatlegal.com

Attn: Ryan E. Chapple Cain & Skarnulis PLLC 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850 Austin, Texas 78701 rchapple@cstrial.com Attn: Randy W. Williams Byman & Associates PLLC 7924 Broadway, Suite 104 Pearland, TX 77581 rww@bymanlaw.com

Attn: Jarrod B. Martin Chamberlain Hrdlicka 1200 Smith Street, Suite 1400 Houston, TX 77002 jarrod.martin@chamberlinlaw.com Bankruptcy & Collections Division PO Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548 <u>christopher.dylla@oag.texas.gov</u>

Melissa Haselden Subchapter V Trustee 700 Milam, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77002 mhaselden@haseldenfarro.com

Attn: Ha M. Nguyen, Jayson B. Ruff Office of U.S. Trustee 515 Rusk, Suite 3516 Houston, TX 77002 <a href="mailto:ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov">ha.nguyen@usdoj.gov</a> jayson.b.ruff@usdoj.gov

/s/ Kyung S. Lee

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	Case No. 22-60043
	<b>§</b>	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11
	§	Subchapter V
Debtor.	<b>§</b>	

# THE TEXAS PLAINTIFFS' WITNESS AND EXHIBIT LIST FOR HEARING SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 12, 2022 AT 1:00 P.M. (PREVAILING CENTRAL TIME)

Neil Heslin, Scarlett Lewis, Leonard Pozner, Veronique De La Rosa, and Marcel Fontaine (collectively, "**Texas Plaintiffs**"), creditors and parties-in-interest in the above-captioned case, file their Witness and Exhibit List for the hearing to be held on August 12, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. (prevailing Central Time) as follows:

### **WITNESSES**

The Sandy Hook Plaintiffs may call the following witnesses at the Hearing:

- 1. W. Marc Schwartz.
- 2. Patrick Reiley.
- 3. Any witness called or designated by any other party.
- 4. Any witness necessary to rebut the evidence or testimony of any witness offered or designated by any other party.

# **EXHIBITS**

EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	MARK	OFFER	OBJECT	ADMIT	W/D	DISPOSITION AFTER TRIAL
1.	Certificate of Formation   Limited Liability Company for Blue Asension Logistics LLC						
2.	Email from aj76@alexjones.net to Patrick@infowars.com dated 6/22/2018 regarding Phone Call with Marc Randazza						
3.	Email from aj76@alexjones.net to Patrick@infowars.com dated 7/5/2016 regarding Boat Dock after the 4th						
4.	Blue Asension Logistics Price List dated 7/18/22						
5.	Declaration of W. Marc Schwartz in Support of Voluntary Petition and First Day Motions [Docket No. 10].						
6.	Text messages between Alex Jones and Patrick Reiley						
7.	Any document or pleading filed in the above-captioned main cases						
8.	Any exhibit necessary for impeachment and/or rebuttal purposes						
9.	Any exhibit identified or offered by any other party						

## **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

The Sandy Hook Plaintiffs reserve the right to call or to introduce one or more, or none, of the witnesses and exhibits listed above, and further reserve the right to supplement this list prior to the Hearing.

Dated: August 12, 2022

#### McDowell Hetherington LLP

Avi Moshenberg Texas Bar No. 24083532 1001 Fannin Street Suite 2700 Houston, TX 77002 Pt. 712, 227, 5580

P: 713-337-5580 F: 713-337-8850

E: avi.moshenberg@mhllp.com

# Counsel for the Texas Plaintiffs

AND

# CHAMBERLAIN, HRDLICKA, WHITE, WILLIAMS & AUGHTRY, PC

By: /s/ Jarrod B. Martin
Jarrod B. Martin
Texas Bar No. 24070221
1200 Smith Street, Suite 1400
Houston, Texas 77002

D: 713.356.1280 F: 713.658.2553

E: jarrod.martin@chamberlainlaw.com

Bankruptcy Counsel for the Texas Plaintiff

## **Certificate of Service**

I certify that on August 12, 2022, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by the Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas.

/s/ Jarrod B. Martin
Jarrod B. Martin

# Exhibit 1

Secretary of State P.O. Box 13697 Austin, TX 78711-3697 FAX: 512/463-5709

Filing Fee: \$300



# Certificate of Formation Limited Liability Company

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of Texas Filing #: 804462512 03/07/2022 Document #: 1126599120004 Image Generated Electronically for Web Filing

### Article 1 - Entity Name and Type

The filing entity being formed is a limited liability company. The name of the entity is:

# Blue Asension Logistics LLC

#### Article 2 - Registered Agent and Registered Office

✓A. The initial registered agent is an organization (cannot be company named above) by the name of:

### Northwest Registered Agent, LLC

OR

- $\square$ B. The initial registered agent is an individual resident of the state whose name is set forth below:
- C. The business address of the registered agent and the registered office address is:

#### Street Address:

#### 5900 Balcones Drive STE 100 Austin TX 78731

### **Consent of Registered Agent**

A. A copy of the consent of registered agent is attached.

OR

☑B. The consent of the registered agent is maintained by the entity.

### **Article 3 - Governing Authority**

A. The limited liability company is to be managed by managers.

OR

☑B. The limited liability company will not have managers. Management of the company is reserved to the members. The names and addresses of the governing persons are set forth below:

Managing Member 1: Patrick Riley Title: Managing Member

Address: 5900 Balcones Drive STE 100 Austin TX, USA 78731

### Article 4 - Purpose

The purpose for which the company is organized is for the transaction of any and all lawful business for which limited liability companies may be organized under the Texas Business Organizations Code.

**Supplemental Provisions / Information** 

[The attached addendum, if any, is incorporated herein by reference.]
Initial Mailing Address
Address to be used by the Comptroller of Public Accounts for purposes of sending tax information.
The initial mailing address of the filing entity is: 5900 Balcones Drive STE 100 Austin, TX 78731 USA
Organizer
The name and address of the organizer are set forth below.  Morgan Noble 5900 Balcones Drive STE 100 Austin, TX US 78731
Effectiveness of Filing
✓A. This document becomes effective when the document is filed by the secretary of state.
OR
□B. This document becomes effective at a later date, which is not more than ninety (90) days from the date of its signing. The delayed effective date is:
Execution
The undersigned affirms that the person designated as registered agent has consented to the appointment. The undersigned signs this document subject to the penalties imposed by law for the submission of a materially false or fraudulent instrument and certifies under penalty of perjury that the undersigned is authorized under the provisions of law governing the entity to execute the filing instrument.
Morgan Noble
Signature of Organizer

FILING OFFICE COPY

# Exhibit 2

### Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 154 of 262

From: A J <aj76@alexjones.net>

To: Patrick PJR Riley WORK <patrick@infowars.com>

**Sent:** 6/22/2018 11:02:04 PM

Subject: Fwd: Phone Call with Marc Randazza

This guy assists Mark Renazza an attorney Alex is looking at to be general counsel or just to handle some of the Sandy Hook cases brought in Connecticut. Please help get a call scheduled with Rendazza through Tennyson Fauver.

Thanks,

#### **David Jones**

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tennyson Fauver** <<u>tif@randazza.com</u>>

Date: Thu, Jun 21, 2018 at 12:55 PM Subject: Phone Call with Marc Randazza

To: aj76@alexjones.net

### Alex,

Marc asked me to set up a time for the two of you to speak. He is available at 1:30pm PST today for a phone call. If that will work for you please let me know, if not, let me know another time and I will make accommodations.

#### Thanks,

Tennyson J. Fauver\* | Randazza Legal Group, PLLC 2764 Lake Sahara Drive, Suite 109, Las Vegas, NV 89117

Tel: (702) 420-2001 | Email: tjf@randazza.com

<sup>\*</sup>Legal Assistant - Not licensed to practice law.

# Exhibit 3

From: aj76@alexjones.net

**To:** patrick@infowars.com <patrick@infowars.com>

Sent: 7/5/2016 9:29:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: Boat Dock after the 4th

## Begin forwarded message:

From: Byrne Benfield < bobenfield@gmail.com >

**Date:** July 5, 2016 at 4:08:47 PM CDT

To: Alex Jones <aj76@alexjones.net>, David Jones <drigones@infowars.com>, Sarah Myers

<aj76.accts@gmail.com>

Cc: Martha Benfield <mpbenfield@gmail.com>

Subject: Boat Dock after the 4th

Whoever was left in charge of cleaning up the boat dock for the Joneses didn't do a very good job. We would appreciate it being cleaned up as soon as possible.

Byrne

# Exhibit 4



Price List

7/18/22

Average Shipping Cost \$14 per Package Average Fulfillment and Handling \$6 per Package

### **Included Services:**

- -Receiving
- -Storage
- -Unlimited Pick
- -Unlimited Pack
- -Order Inserting
- -Supplies
- -Returns
- -Cycle Counting/Inventory
- -Software & IT Integrations
- -Q.C. & Q.A.
- -Labor
- -Shipping Cost
- \*\* 90 Day Commitment
- \*\*All orders through Infowarsstore.com fulfilled by Blue Asension Logistics LLC
- \*\*Special Projects such as kitting, labeling/relabeling, etc. \$50/man-hour

# Exhibit 5

# Exhibit 3

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS VICTORIA DIVISION

In re:	) Case No. 22- <u>60043</u>
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
Debtor.	) )

# DECLARATION OF W. MARC SCHWARTZ IN SUPPORT OF VOLUNTARY PETITION AND FIRST DAY MOTIONS

- I, W. Marc Schwartz, hereby declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, under penalty of perjury as follows:
  - 1. My name is W. Marc Schwartz ("Schwartz").
- 2. I submit this Declaration based on personal knowledge in support of the voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") filed by Free Speech Systems, LLC (the "Debtor" or "FSS") on the date hereof (the "Petition Date"). I further submit this Declaration to assist this Court and parties-in-interest in understanding the circumstances that compelled the commencement of the Debtor's chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case").
- 3. The relief sought in the First Day Motions should enable the Debtor to administer its estate effectively. I have reviewed the First Day Motions, and I believe the requested relief is necessary to ensure the success of the Chapter 11 Case.
- 4. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts as set forth in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my review of relevant documents, or my opinion based upon experience, knowledge, and information concerning the Debtor. If called upon to testify, I would testify competently to the facts set forth in this Declaration.

- 5. I am a founder of Schwartz & Associates, LLC ("SALLC"). SALLC has its principal offices at 712 Main Street, Suite 1830, Houston, Texas. SALLC has been engaged in business since 2019. The primary business of SALLC is bankruptcy and financial restructuring consulting, serving as financial/economic experts in civil litigation matters and, serving as court appointed receivers in federal and state court matters. The firm is also licensed as an Investigations Company by the Texas Department of Public Safety.
- 6. SALLC's services include financial forensics, supervising business operations as a trustee, examiner with expanded powers or receiver, valuing business assets and income tax related services. My firm represents individuals, companies and courts in a variety of assignments, including serving as a Chief Restructuring Officer, financial adviser, trustee or examiner in bankruptcy matters; working as a testifying or consulting expert on damages and economic issues for parties involved in litigation and as a special master for courts where litigation matters are pending; serving as a court appointed receiver in state and federal courts.
- 7. I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University and a Master's in Business Administration degree from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. I am licensed in Texas as a Certified Public Accountant, Certified in Financial Forensics by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, a Certified Fraud Examiner, and a Licensed Private Investigator.
- 8. I have extensive experience serving as a fiduciary in bankruptcy cases as either a Chapter 11 Trustee, a Chief Restructuring Officer, or an Examiner with expanded powers. I have also acted as a receiver over several individuals and entities under state and federal law.
- 9. On June 7, 2022, the Debtor confirmed my retention as the Debtor's Chief Restructuring Officer (the "CRO") and SALLC as its financial advisors as of May 19, 2022.

10. On the Petition Date, FSS filed its petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") with the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Texas, Victoria Division (the "Bankruptcy Court"). FSS properly qualified to file as a Subchapter V Debtor under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

# RELEVANT FACTS AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

### A. Background to Creation of Free Speech Systems, LLC

- 11. Born in 1974, Alex Jones ("<u>Alex Jones</u>" or "<u>Jones</u>") is the son of Carol Jones, a homemaker, and David Jones, a prominent dentist. Jones moved from Dallas to Austin as a teenager.
- 12. In the early 1990s, Austin was a dirt-cheap home to artists, musicians, and zine makers<sup>1</sup>. According to Shannon Burke, a local talk-radio host, "the perfect incubator for [Alex Jones]. It's that libertarian and weirdness blend that wouldn't have worked had he been born in Milwaukee." *Buzzfeed*, May 6, 2017 (Charlie Warzel) (hereafter "*Buzzfeed*").
- 13. Austin Public Access ("<u>ACTV</u>"), the TV station where Jones got his first big break showcased that weirdness. In the 1990s, ACTV "was wild and unmoderated like the YouTube of its time," Brian Blake, the station's longtime producer and IT director, explained. For Jones, then just out of high school, it was a huge opportunity a chance to spend an hour in front of a camera saying pretty much anything he wanted to Austin's night owls. *Buzzfeed*.
- 14. From his first broadcast, Jones targeted the threat of the <u>New World Order</u>, which he had first encountered in the book *None Dare Call It Conspiracy*, discovered on his father's bookshelf. His earliest monologues were stark and raw; Jones would deliver his monologues

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Wikipedia defines it as "a small circulation self-published work of original or appropriated texts and images usually reproduced via photocopier" - although the term is often used to describe any magazine aimed at a niche audience.

from a bare table, surrounded by stacks of newspaper and often fumbling his words. But the message and the intensity were indistinguishable from the Jones on the air in 2017. *Buzzfeed*. Jones was a modest public-access success.

- 15. Alex and his father then found an opportunity in 1996 for Alex to do a talk show on the Austin talk radio station KJFK-FM. He started hosting a show called "The Final Edition". To secure Jones a spot on the station, Jones' father became his son's first on-air advertiser. The show lasted for three years. "Alex Jones" *Southern Poverty Law Center ("SPLC")*.
  - 16. Alex Jones was a natural.
- 17. The "Final Edition" lasted until 1999, when he was fired because his views made it difficult to attract commercial sponsors despite high ratings and winning the best Austin talk radio host show awards. *SPLC*.
- 18. Upon being terminated, Alex Jones immediately set up an ISDN line in his house and began independently broadcasting via Infowars.com and national syndication by Genesis Communications to AM, FM, and shortwave stations. *SPLC*.
- 19. When Jones started broadcasting on the radio in the late 1990s, he closely followed the talk radio playbook, he built a large and devoted audience of far-right conspiracy-theory believers. He sold radio advertising, videos, books, and T-shirts. From there, he expanded by establishing a website, making, and selling his own conspiracy-oriented documentary films, and, then launching PrisonPlanet.tv, a subscription-only streaming-video service that offered instant access to the films. *Intelligencer*, May 2017. Alex's syndication soon reached almost 100 stations. *SPLC*.
- 20. The predecessor operation of FSS in 2004 was an operation with just a handful of employees. Alex Jones had a tiny office in the far south of Austin. He had two employees at

that time. One of the two employees tended to the warehouse operations. It was also not clear where Alex Jones broadcast at that time. *Jacobson Deposition*, P30.<sup>2</sup>

- 21. As his business grew, Alex formed FSS in November 2007 to support his various family business opportunities. Getting into broadcasting had been a family idea, and running a business associated with his radio broadcasting continued to be a family business.
- 22. By 2010, Jones had a full-size facility. He had over 60 people on his staff and a full-blown studio. *Jacobson Deposition*, P30. FSS's operation in 2010 were dramatically different in "every way, shape and form", *Jacobson Deposition*, PP30-31, from his 1990 operations.
- 23. While Alex's broadcasting technology significantly improved, he did not retain professional managers to run his burgeoning business. It continued to be run by members of his family, friends, and employees whom he had known in high school.
- 24. After 2013, Alex Jones' media formula changed from website and films to a website and radio. *Jacobson Deposition*, PP30-31. While his media formula changed, Alex still did not employ professionally trained and experienced business managers at FSS.
- 25. The post 2013 business model of FSS recognized that it was a "single talent business" *to wit*, Alex Jones, singularly drove sales on his Infowars.com website. FSS began to make available dietary supplements: products such as InfoWarsLife Silver Bullet Colloidal Silver; Infowars Life Brain Force Plus; InfoWars Life Super Male Vitality; Infowars Life Liver Shield. Supplements "completely transformed" Infowars. Most of FSS' revenue to this day comes from sales of dietary supplements.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Oral and Videotaped Deposition of Robert Jacobson, March 20, 2019, Scarlett Lewis v. Alex. E. Jones (Texas).

26. Alex Jones' show is syndicated by the Genesis Communications Network ("GCN"). Instead of charging syndication fees to radio stations, GCN uses what is called the barter model. GCN offers the content for no cost, and, in exchange, GCN reserves the right to sell national advertising against the programs, generally four minutes per hour.

## B. Present Business of Free Speech Systems, LLC

- 27. FSS is presently engaged in the business of producing and syndicating Jones' radio and video talk shows and selling products targeted to Jones' loyal fan base via the Internet. Today, FSS produces Alex Jones' syndicated news/talk show (The Alex Jones Show) from Austin, Texas, airs via GCN on over 100 radio stations across the United States and via the internet through the website Infowars.com.
- 28. On its Infowars.com website today, FSS makes available to customers dietary supplements ("Supplements"), including Bodease, Krill Oil, Ultimate Fish Oil, DNA Force Plus, Vitamin D3 Gummies, Ultimate Immune Support Pack, Pollen Block, and other health products, including Tea Tree Shampoo. The website also has available books, t-shirts, and other products ("Non-Supplements") Jones advertises during his radio talk show.
- 29. The vast majority of FSS revenues comes from the sale of Supplements, which have traditionally been supplied by or contracted for by PQPR, an affiliated entity, described below.
- 30. As of July 15, 2022, FSS employs a workforce of 58 individuals, the majority of whom have a direct reporting relationship to Alex Jones. In one building in Austin, Texas, FSS has four studios where online and traditional broadcast production is provided. The Alex Jones Show and other shows are produced in these studios. An adjacent building contains administrative offices and customer support. In a separate location in Austin, Texas, FSS has a

building where warehousing and product sales fulfillment takes place. *David Jones Deposition*, P13.<sup>3</sup> All the buildings and offices are leased.

31. FSS has a unique audience that is highly loyal to Alex Jones and purchases products based on Alex Jones' credibility. Product sales from Infowars.com stores are a significant source of revenue for FSS. Historically, approximately 80% of FSS' revenue is derived from product sales, of the remainder, 11% is historically from advertising and the balance from a variety of sources. *David Jones Deposition*, P47.

# C. The Relationship Between Alex Jones and FSS

- 32. FSS, as employer, and Alex Jones, as employee, are parties to an Employment Agreement and Accompanying Employee Annuity and Life Insurance Plan, dated April 14, 2022 (the "Jones Employment Agreement").
- 33. Under the Jones Employment Agreement, Jones agrees to promote products and services agreed to by the Employer, and permits Alex to use FSS's trademarks, tradenames, intellectual property and web site, including the Infowars website. Jones Employment Agreement, ¶¶ 3, 4.
- 34. All of FSS' wages to him are subject to the Employee Annuity And Life Insurance Plan (Employee Annuity Plan), attached to the Jones Employment Agreement. Jones Employment Agreement. Under the Employee Annuity Plan, the employee may designate a portion or all his/her salary to purchase an annuity and life insurance, in amounts determined by the employee, from an insurance company to be selected. Employees with more than two years of full-time consecutive service with FSS are eligible to participate in the Employee Annuity Plan.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Oral and Videotaped Deposition of David R. Jones, May 16, 2019, Eric Lafferty, et. al. v. Alex Emeric Jones, et. al. (Connecticut).

35. The CRO is continuing to evaluate whether the estate has causes of action to claw back any payments or distributions to Alex Jones.

### D. The Debtor' Owners and Management

- 36. At its formation, Alex Jones and Kelly Jones owned 49% and 51% of the membership interests in FSS.
- 37. Alex and Kelly Jones divorced in 2015. Upon their divorce, Jones became the sole owner of FSS.
  - 38. Since then, Alex Jones has been the Managing Member of FSS.
- 39. Since inception, Alex Jones has been a "single talent business", *to wit,* without him and his show, there would neither be any InfoWars nor internet sales. Unfortunately, Jones failed to bring on board the necessary management skills to manage what was once a small family business but had become a \$70 to \$80 million a year enterprise. Jones and his employees continued to run the business with an inverted T structure, where essentially everyone reported to Alex, as though it was still a family business.
- 40. Since May 19, 2022, FSS has retained Schwartz as its Chief Restructuring Officer ("CRO"), with broad powers to review the company's past financial performance, analyze the condition of FSS's books and records and evaluate whether FSS is a business that can be reorganized. SALLC was retained to perform various accounting and forensic work associated with his mandate.
- 41. In addition, FSS retained Jeffery Shulse ("Shulse") as FSS' Business Manager. Shulse has been parachuted into FSS's offices in Austin to take over FSS' accounting and financial functions and work with Schwartz and SALLC to (a) implement viable accounting and

financial management functions; (b) implement sorely needed internal accounting controls, and (c) establish uniform accounting expense and personnel policies. With a BBA in accounting from the University of Houston and a J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center, Shulse has over twenty years' experience in providing business, operational and financial consulting to businesses and as a CFO and CEO of businesses in the oil and gas production and construction industries.

- 42. The preliminary conclusions reached by me about FSS are:
- (a) Although FSS had a controller and two bookkeepers, the 2021 general ledger had not been completed and the books have not been closed, and almost no transactions have been recorded in the 2022 general ledger. As a result, no financial statements were produced for FSS for the 18 months preceding my engagement. SALLC found no bank reconciliations for 2021 or 2022;
- (b) FSS personnel expressed no criticism of not receiving any financial reports to assist them in managing their functional responsibilities and, in fact, appear to be unaware of the management information available to them from timely prepared and detailed financial statements and analyses;
- (c) Internal accounting controls were inadequate, including lack of segregation of duties, written monthly, quarterly, and annual closing schedules, lack of supervisory review of key accounting functions including vendor set up, bank reconciliations, inventory reconciliations, or billings to PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC ("PQPR");
- (d) Invoices from PQPR for payment for product it had acquired and sold to FSS were not paid or not paid in full, resulting in a liability to PQPR in excess of \$50 million.

# E. The Relationship of FSS and PQPR

# Background Information About PQPR

- 43. PQPR was founded in 2013. The business began operations in September 2013.
- 44. PQPR is engaged in the online sale and marketing of primarily nutritional supplements which it sells under its own label as well as acquiring nutritional supplements for FSS which it markets under its InfoWars label. PQPR also advertises its products exclusively through FSS/The Alex Jones Show for which it receives a bulk discount. PQPR also sells outside the FSS/Alex Jones show channels.
  - 45. PQPR is managed by David Jones. Alex Jones is not a manager of PQPR.
  - 46. The current owners and their ownership interests in PQPR are as follows:

	% Owned
PLJR Holdings	80.00%
JLJR Holdings, LLC	20.00%
Total	100.00%

- 47. Through AEJ Austin Holdings, LLC, Jones has an effective 72% membership interest in PLJR Holdings, LLC ("PLJR"). Mrs. Carol Jones owns an 80.00% interest in, and Dr. David Jones holds the remaining 20.00% membership interest in JLJR Holdings, LLC ("JLJR").
  - 48. Alex Jones is not a manager of either PLJR or JLJR.

### Commercial Relationship Between FSS and PQPR

49. As discussed previously, FSS sells two groups of products on its Infowarsstore.com website: Supplements and Non-Supplements. The selection of nutritional supplements to be sold is determined by Alex Jones, David Jones, and staff of FSS. Currently, FSS places orders for Supplements with PQPR which then places the order with the original manufacturer. FSS pays PQPR, as its agent, funds required to purchase product, which then pays

the manufacturer and manages the delivery and certification of the products. Pricing of the Supplements is done by FSS.

- 50. Non-Supplements consist of "Infowars" merchandise, ranging from T-shirts to silver coins. This group of merchandise is handled solely by FSS employees, starting from the selection of the merchandise, placing of the merchandise on the Infowars website, ordering of and paying for the product.
- 51. Alex Jones promotes both the Supplements and Non-Supplements during his daily broadcast and is the principal driving factor promoting the sale of products to his audience.
- 52. In the past, PQPR ordered and paid for Supplements which it marked up and then sold to FSS for distribution. As a result of FSS's inability to pay PQPR in full for the PQPR merchandise over several years, FSS became indebted to PQPR in a significant amount by 2020. The parties memorialized the indebtedness between the parties in 2020.

### The Entry into the Secured Notes

- 53. On or about August 13, 2020, FSS and PQPR executed a Promissory Note in the principal amount of \$29,588,000.00 made payable to PQPR, which memorialized the accrued obligations of FSS to PQPR through December 31, 2018 (the "2020 Secured Note"). The 2020 Secured Note matures on August 1, 2050, interest is due and payable annually. The 2020 Secured Note bears interest at 1.75%.
- 54. The 2020 Secured Note is secured by a Security Agreement entered into as of August 13, 2020, between FSS and PQPR (the "2020 Security Agreement"). The 2020 Security Agreement provides in paragraph II that the "Collateral" securing the repayment of the 2020 Secured Note consists of all personal property owned by FSS.
- 55. On November 18, 2020, PQPR filed a UCC-1 Financing Statement with the Texas Secretary of State ("November 18 UCC Financing Statement").

- 56. On or about November 10, 2021, FSS and PQPR entered into a second Promissory Note in the principal amount of \$25,300,000.00 made payable to PQPR, which memorialized the accrued obligations of FSS to PQPR from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020 (the "2021 Secured Note"). Principal and interest of \$1,939,644.81 is due on each anniversary of the 2021 Secured Note. The 2021 Secured Note bears interest at 1.8% and matures on November 10, 2036.
- 57. The 2021 Secured Note is secured by the 2020 Security Agreement and the November 18 UCC Financing Statement.
- 58. As of the Petition Date, \$53,646,6876.82 of principal and \$11,787.16 of interest are owed under the two Secured Notes.
- 59. PQPR has been the primary source of Supplements for the Infowars website and has contributed to most of the revenue attributable to FSS. Maintaining access to the Supplement supply, along with Alex Jones being on the air, is critical to the reorganization of FSS.

### F. FSS Needs a Credit Card Processor

- 60. An essential component of FSS's Infowarsstore.com business with which it could not survive is a credit card processor. Without the ability to process credit card transaction, FSS's business could not operate. Processing a credit card transaction is a complex process. The process was made more difficult when financial institutions and media sites deplatformed FSS starting in 2018.
- 61. Credit card processing refers to a multi-step process necessary to successfully complete payments made with a credit card. Credit card processing involves numerous entities. This includes the consumer, merchant, payment gateway, credit card processor, card network, issuing bank, and acquiring bank.

- 62. The key players in credit card processing are:
- **Customer** the person making a purchase.
- **Merchant** the person or organization selling a product or service to the customer making a purchase.
- Payment gateway this refers to the technology that connects a merchant to a payment processor. This process involves integrating with card-present (i.e., in-store purchases) and card-not-present (i.e., online purchases) payment environments, obtaining the payment information of customers' transactions, sending these details to a payment processor or merchant bank, and then sending an "approved" or "declined" message to the merchant.
- Credit card processor (or payment processor) this is the organization that helps the merchant, credit card network, and the cardholder's bank communicate. Credit card processors and merchants must comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS).
- Card network (also called credit card network or credit card brand) this is the customers' credit card brand, such as Discover, Mastercard, or Visa. These networks must set assessment and interchange fees.
- Issuing bank (also known as the cardholder's bank or consumer bank) this refers to the bank providing customers with their credit card. The issuing bank will determine whether the cardholder's account has the funds to fulfill a transaction. If the account meets these requirements, the issuing bank will release those funds for settlement.
- Acquiring bank (or merchant bank) this is the merchant's bank, which is used for storing its business funds and receiving money from transactions. This type of bank can provide card readers and equipment to merchants, allowing merchants to accept card payments. Acquiring banks can also serve as credit card processors.
- 63. In April 2018, FSS had accounts on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Periscope, Pinterest, Instagram. *Michael Zimmerman Deposition*<sup>4</sup>, P35. FSS also had the ability to access banks and credit card processors without any problems prior to April 2018.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Videotaped Oral Deposition of Michael Zimmerman, November 26, 2019, Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones (Texas).

- 64. After the commencement of the Sandy Hook Litigation by the Texas and Connecticut Plaintiffs, FSS and Infowars.com were de-platformed from many important internet, social media, and other financial transaction accounts.
- 65. Customers utilize credit or debit cards to purchase merchandise on the Infowarsstore.com website. FSS had to locate a credit card processor and a bank that would do business with it, after FSS was shunned by financial institutions and deplatformed on media sites starting in 2018.
- 66. FSS entered into an agreement with a company as of October 1, 2021, to provide credit card processing for FSS. A third-party processor receives payments from the credit card companies. The company receives credit card receipt proceeds and based on information provided by FSS and PQPR, including which entity owns the inventory that was sold, allocates funds between FSS and PQPR and transfers the amounts allocated to FSS and PQPR's respective banks. This process occurs every federally recognized business day.
- 67. FSS pays the company a fee of 4% of the total amount of all credit card charges processed under the agreement and reimbursement of all costs incurred, including all credit card processing charges incurred in processing FSS' credit card charges.
- 68. In addition to the fee, the agreement provided that the company withhold from FSS' net receipts \$11,000.00 per business day and remit that amount to PQPR to pay principal and interest on the promissory notes executed by FSS in favor of PQPR.
- 69. In a forbearance agreement entered into prior to the Petition Date, the parties agreed to reduce the amount being withheld from FSS' net receipts to \$2,500.00 per business day for the thirty days following July 12, 2022, when the payment increases to \$5,500.00 per business day for an additional thirty days, at which time the payment increases to \$11,000.00 per day.

70. The forbearance agreement also provides that FSS will receive 20% of the proceeds of all sales of products purchased by PQPR (with PQPR receiving 80%) of such proceeds. In turn, PQPR will receive 10% of the proceeds of all sales of products purchased by FSS (with FSS receiving 90%). This split was to reimburse the respective parties for setting up supply chains, obtaining required governmental certifications, negotiating with vendors, procuring and paying for product, and overhead.

## G. Sandy Hook and Litigation Resulting Therefrom

- 71. The Debtors' financial distress stems from statements made by Alex Jones and other employees of FSS in the wake of the December 14, 2012, mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in which 20 children and 6 educators were killed by Adam Lanza. Certain parents of the deceased victims of the Sandy Hook shooting assert, among other things, that these statements were defamatory and inflicted emotional distress.
- 72. The crux of the allegations in these lawsuits are that Alex Jones and FSS employees said or implied that the Sandy Hook massacre did not happen and that the parents were participants in a conspiracy against the public.
- 73. In 2018, certain aggrieved parties (the "Texas Plaintiffs") commenced state-court actions against one or more of the Debtors styled as: (a) Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, and Owen Shroyer, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001835, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas; (b) Scarlett Lewis v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-006623, in the 53rd District Court for Travis County, Texas; (c) Leonard Pozner and Veronique De La Rosa v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001842, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas; (d) Marcel Fontaine v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC,

and Kit Daniels, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001605 in the 459th District Court for Travis County, Texas; and (e) Neil Heslin, Scarlett Lewis, Leonard Pozner, Veronique De La Rosa, Marcel Fontaine v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, PQPR Holdings Limited LLC, JLJR Holdings, LLC, PLJR Holdings, LLC, Carol Jones, David Jones, PQPR Holdings, LLC, JLJR Holdings Limited, LLC, AEJ Holdings, LLC, AEJ Trust 2018, Cause No. D-1-GN-22-001610, in the 200th District Court for Travis County (collectively, as may have been consolidated, the "Texas State Court Litigation").

- 74. These two actions: <u>(a)</u> Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, and Owen Shroyer, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001835, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas; <u>(b)</u> Scarlett Lewis v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-006623, in the 53rd District Court for Travis County, Texas (the "Heslin/Lewis Suit") have been consolidated. Judge Maya Gamble is presently conducting a trial of the Heslin/Lewis Suit.
- 75. As a result of the filing of FSS' bankruptcy, the Texas State Court Litigation has been stayed by the automatic stay provision of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 76. In 2018, certain other parties (the "Connecticut Plaintiffs") brought actions in Connecticut styled:
  - Erica Lafferty, David Wheeler, Francine Wheeler, Jacqueline Barden, Mark Barden, Nicole Hockley, Ian Hockley, Jennifer Hensel, Jeremy Richman, Donna Soto, Carlee Soto-Parisi, Carlos Soto, Jillian Soto, and William Aldenberg v. Alex Emric Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Infowars Health, LLC, Prison Planet TV, LLC, Wolfgang Halbig, Corey T. Sklanka, Genesis Communications Network, Inc., and Midas Resources, Inc., Cause No. X06-UWY-CV-18-6046436-S in the Superior Court of Connecticut, Waterbury Division;
  - William Sherlach and Robert Parker v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Infowars Health, LLC, and Prison Planet TV, Wolfgang Halbig, Cory T. Sklanka, Genesis Communications Network, Inc., and Midas Resources, Inc., Cause No. X06-UWY-CV-18-6046437-S in the Superior Court of Connecticut, Waterbury Division;

- William Sherlach and Robert Parker v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Infowars Health, LLC, and Prison Planet TV, Wolfgang Halbig, Cory T. Sklanka, Genesis Communications Network, Inc., and Midas Resources, Inc., Cause No. X06-UWY-CV-18-6046438-S in the Superior Court of Connecticut, Waterbury Division (collectively, the "Connecticut State Court Litigation" together with the Texas State Court Litigation are hereinafter referred to as the "Sandy Hook Lawsuits").
- 77. As a result of the filing of FSS' bankruptcy, the Connecticut State Court Litigation has been stayed by the automatic stay provision of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 78. Jones, FSS, and the Debtors have spent more than \$15.0 million in legal fees and costs since commencement of the Sandy Hook Lawsuits.
- 79. Despite the substantial amount spent, both the Texas and Connecticut courts have imposed multiple sanctions and ruled that Jones and FSS have failed to comply with discovery requirements such that judgment on liability has been entered against them by default.
- 80. InfoW, LLC f/k/a Infowars, LLC ("<u>InfoW</u>" and together with its affiliate debtors IWHealth, LLC and Prison Planet tv, Ltd., the "<u>InfoWDebtors</u>"), filed a voluntary petition for chapter 11 bankruptcy relief in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, Victoria Division (the "<u>Bankruptcy Court</u>"), on April 18, 2022 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), initiating Case No. 22-60020 in that court (the "<u>Bankruptcy Case</u>").
- 81. The purpose of the Bankruptcy Case was to provide a mechanism to efficiently determine and pay *all* claims against the InfoWDebtors and joint tortfeasors in full. To support this, the equity of the InfoWDebtors was assigned to the Liquidation Settlement Trust (for the benefit of the Plaintiffs<sup>5</sup> and others) prior to the Petition Date, and the InfoWDebtors, with separate counsel and financial advisors, negotiated the Plan Support Agreement

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- 82. Among other things, the Plan Support Agreement obligated Jones and FSS (together with Jones, the "Third-Party Funding Contributors") to fund \$10.0 million to pay litigation claimants. The total consideration would have been more than \$500,000 per litigation claimant. Additional consideration may have been negotiated over the course of the InfoWDebtors' Bankruptcy Case
- 83. Prior to the Petition Date of the InfoWDebtors' bankruptcy cases, the InfoWDebtors' and the Third-Party Funding Contributors incurred and paid more than \$15.0 million in legal costs. The savings from liquidating the claims in a central forum were essential to the administration of the InfoWDebtors' bankruptcy estates and ultimately paying creditors in full. Absent centralized administration—which may include determination by a jury—the funds available would have been cannibalized in successive trials over a five-month period.
- 84. Rather than negotiate with the InfoWDebtors and the Third-Party Funding Contributors, the Plaintiffs first sought to dismiss the InfoWDebtors' Bankruptcy Case, and, then abruptly, even though Plaintiffs had sued InfoW four years ago, dismissed with prejudice InfoW and, where relevant, the other two debtors within 2 months of the Petition Date.
- 85. The primary goal of InfoWDebtors in the Bankruptcy Case was to engage the Plaintiffs in a global settlement. While unable to achieve that goal, the Bankruptcy Case resulted in the dismissal with prejudice of all claims against InfoW, IW Health and Prison Planet from any and all claims held by the Plaintiffs.

### H. Current Financial Condition of Debtor

86. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"** is a comparative Profit and Loss Statement for FSS for the period January 1, 2022, through May 31, 2022 and the year ended December 31, 2021.

- 87. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "B"** is a comparative Balance Sheet of FSS as of May 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021.
- 88. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "C"** is a comparative Cash Flow Statement for FSS for the period January 1, 2022, through May 31, 2022 and the year ended December 31, 2021.

## I. Critical Motions to Commence the Chapter 11 Case

### **First Day Motions**

- 89. Contemporaneously herewith, the Debtor has filed a number of First Day Motions seeking orders granting various forms of relief intended to stabilize the Debtor's business operations and facilitate the efficient administration of the Chapter 11 Case. The First Day Motions include the following:
  - Schedules and Statements Extension Motion. Debtor's Motion Seeking Entry of an Order (I) Extending Time to File Schedules of Assets and Liabilities, Schedules of Current Income and Expenditures, Schedules of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, and Statements of Financial Affairs, and (II) Granting Related Relief.
  - Cash Collateral Motion. Debtor's Emergency Motion For An Interim And Final Order (I) Authorizing The Use Of Cash Collateral Pursuant To Sections 105, 361, and 363 of The Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule Of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(B), And (II) Granting Adequate Protection To The Pre-Petition Secured Lender.

- Critical Vendors Motion. Debtor's Motion for an Order (A) Authorizing The
  Debtor To Pay Prepetition Obligations Of Certain Critical Vendors, And (B)
  Granting Related Relief.
- Utilities Motion. Debtor's Emergency Motion For Entry Of An Order: (I)

  Approving Debtor's Proposed Form Of Adequate Assurance Of Payment For

  Future Utility Services; (II) Approving Adequate Assurance Procedures;

  Prohibiting Utility Providers From Altering, Refusing Or Discontinuing Service;

  And (Iv) Granting Related Relief.
- Relief from Stay Motion. Debtor's Emergency Motion For An Order Modifying
   The Automatic Stay To Allow The Heslin/Lewis State Court Suit To Continue To
   Judgement.
- 90. The First Day Motions seek authority to, among other things, obtain authority to use cash collateral of PQPR to operate the business of FSS in the ordinary course, including maintaining the studios for Jones to produce his shows, purchase critically needed Supplements and operate the sale business of merchandise sales from the InfowarsStore.com website, pay claims of certain vendors and suppliers to ensure that the Debtor's business operations are not disrupted by the Chapter 11 Case, provide payments and protection to various utilities to assure that they provide essential services to the Debtor, and grant the Texas Plaintiffs relief from the automatic stay provision of 11 U.S.C § 362(a) so as to permit the Heslin\Lewis Suit to continue to judgment uninterrupted by the automatic stay.
- 91. The Debtor has tailored its requests for immediate relief to those circumstances where the failure to receive such relief would cause immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor and its estate. An immediate and orderly transition into chapter 11 is critical to the viability of the Debtor's operations and any delay in grating the relief described in the First Day Motions

could hinder the Debtor's operations and cause irreparable harm. The failure to receive the requested relief during the first twenty-one (21) days of the Chapter 11 Case would severely disrupt the Debtor's operations at this important juncture.

92. I am familiar with the content and substance contained in each First Day Motion and believe that the relief sought in each motion (a) is necessary to enable the Debtor to operate in chapter 11 with minimal disruption or loss of productivity and value, (b) constitutes a critical element of the Debtor's successful reorganization, and (c) best serves the Debtor's estate. I have reviewed each of the First Day Motions. If asked to testify as to the facts supporting each of the First Day Motions, I would testify to the facts as set forth in such motions, as further described below.

#### **Procedural Motion**

- 93. **Schedules and Statements Extension Motion**. The Debtor seeks entry of an order (a) extending the deadline by which the Debtor must file its schedule of assets and liabilities, schedules of current income and expenditures, schedule of executory contracts and unexpired leases and statement of financial affairs by an additional 14 days for a total of 29 days from the Petition Date, without prejudice to the Debtor's ability to request additional extensions.
- 94. Schwartz, Shulse and SALLC have literally been drinking from a firehose since their retention. While they have accomplished much, the company continues to face issues on a daily basis that requires emergency, urgent and immediate attention from this group. Furthermore, locating accurate financial records is a tedious task at FSS, as the record keeping for orders, invoices, expense reports, American Express charge reports are not well-organized. All other records on the computer system also require additional time to retrieve.
- 95. Given the complexity of the Debtor's business and financial affairs, and the critical matters that the Debtor's management and professionals were required to address prior

to Petition Date, the Debtor was not able to complete the Schedules and Statements as of the Petition Date.

96. I believe that the relief requested in the Schedules and Statements Extension Moton is in the best interest of the Debtor's estate, its creditors, and all other parties in interest and will facilitate the Debtor's ability to operate its business in chapter 11 without disruption.

#### **Operational Motions**

- 97. Cash Collateral Motion<sup>6</sup>. The Debtor must have access to and use of cash collateral to operate its business. Prior to the Petition Date, FSS and PQPR engaged in extensive and difficult negotiations over the use of cash collateral. The negotiations were complicated by PQPR's significant and important commercial role with FSS. PQPR acts as a lender, provides Supplements and handles essential accounting and revenue division functions for FSS' business.
- 98. The Debtor requires the use of cash collateral to purchase Supplements and Non-Supplements to sell on its Infowarsstore.com website, pay reasonable and necessary operating expenses, including, but not limited to, employee payroll, rent, utilities, lease payments, marketing, taxes, and insurance. Without use of cash collateral, FSS could not operate its business, pay its employees and operate the studios where Alex Jones produces his shows.
- 99. Working with Alex Jones, PQPR, FSS employees, Shulse and SALLC, I have developed a 13-Week Cash Flow Forecast showing the Sources and Uses of Cash for FSS commencing as of July 30, 2022. A true and correct copy of the 13-Week Cash Flow Forecast is attached hereto as **Exhibit "D"**. Based on the assumptions made in the forecast, I project that FSS will operate with a positive ending cash balance at the conclusion of the 13-week period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Debtor is in possession of certain funds which are not proceeds of PQPR's collateral. Accordingly, the Debtor does not concede that those funds constitute cash collateral of PQPR. Nevertheless, net proceeds received by the Debtor from online merchandise sales including PQPR products are PQPR's cash collateral.

- 100. The use of cash collateral required in the next fourteen (14) days from the Petition Date is also set forth on the budgets attached hereto as **Exhibit D**. The Debtor's proposed emergency use of cash collateral is necessary to preserve the value of the Debtor's estate for the benefit of all creditors, including the PQPR, during the first fourteen (14) days of the Chapter 11 Case (the "Interim Period").
- 101. The Debtor's proposed offer of adequate protection on an interim basis is set forth in the proposed Interim Cash Collateral Order. It includes replacement liens solely to the extent of any validly perfected, unavoidable security interest as of the Petition Date, and a priority administrative claim to the extent of the diminution of value of PQPR's collateral, if any. As described further in the proposed Interim Cash Collateral Order, the proposed replacement liens and priority administrative claim shall be subject to a carve-out for unpaid fees owed to the clerk of this Court or the United States Trustee, if any, and court-approved administrative expense claims of estate professionals.
- 102. PQPR and FSS have engaged in extensive negotiations over a protracted duration to arrive at the interim agreement, which the parties will further negotiate into a final agreement. Due to FSS's affiliation with Alex Jones, the CRO made a decision that time was best spent negotiating the most favorable use of cash collateral agreement with PQPR rather than seeking any alternative third-party lender or source of capital to operate FSS.
- 103. Without access to the use of cash collateral of PQPR, FSS could not retain the employees to produce The Alex Jones Show, purchase critically needed inventory to sell on the Infowarsstore.com website and to operate its fulfillment business once a customer makes a purchase.
- 104. **Critical Vendors Motion.** The Debtor seeks entry of interim and final orders authorizing, but not directing, the Debtor to pay, in the ordinary course of business, prepetition

amounts owing on account of claims of critical vendors identified on Schedule "1" to the Critical Vendors Motion (collectively, the "<u>Critical Vendors</u>") in an amount not to exceed \$359,544.62. In addition, the Debtor requests that the Court schedule a final hearing in approximately twenty-one (21) days after the entry of an interim order, or as soon thereafter as is convenient for the Court, to consider approval of the Critical Vendors Motion on a final basis.

- 105. After an extensive review and analysis of the Debtor's vendors, the Debtor and its professionals identified the vendors that supply products and services vital to the Debtor's continued operation. The Debtor relies on products and services from its Critical Vendors to operate its business, and, depend on the timely provision of specialized services to provide top-quality content and services to its customer base.
- 106. The Critical Vendors procure and provide key services to producing and transmitting The Alex Jones Show. The Critical Vendors are instrumental in the timely fulfillment of Supplement or Non-Supplements to the customer base. If they fail to provide their mission-critical goods and services, the business of FSS would grind to a halt.
- 107. I understand that the Debtor's trade relationship with its Critical Vendors is not governed by long-term contracts, and the Debtor believes those trade relationships will deteriorate, causing disruption to the Debtor's operations if the Debtor is unable to pay Critical Vendors. Accordingly, payment of the Critical Vendors is essential to avoid costly interruption and disturbances to the Debtor's business during the Chapter 11 Case.
- 108. Subject to Court's approval, I understand the Debtor intends to pay Critical Vendors only to the extent necessary to preserve its business. The Debtor's CRO will review, assess, and make payment on account of these claims. In return for paying these claims, the Debtor will use commercially reasonable efforts to condition payment of Critical Vendors upon each claimant's agreement to continue supplying goods and services to the Debtor in accordance

with trade terms (including credit limits, discounts, pricing, timing of payments, availability, and other terms) consistent with the parties' ordinary course practice or as otherwise agreed by the Debtor in its reasonable business judgement.

- 109. I believe that the relief requested in the Critical Vendors Motion is in the best interest of the Debtor's estate, its creditors and all other parties in interest and will facilitate the Debtor's ability to operate its business in chapter 11 without disruption.
- 110. **Utilities Motion**. The Debtors seeks entry of an order (a) approving the Debtor's proposed adequate assurance of payment for future utility services under section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code, (b) prohibiting the utility providers from altering, refusing, or discontinuing services, (c) approving the Debtor's propose adequate assurance procedures, and, (d) granting related relief.
- 111. In connection with the operation of its business, the Debtor obtains electricity, telecommunications and other similar services from a number of utility providers or brokers. Uninterrupted utility services are essential to the Debtor's ongoing business operations and the overall success of the Chapter 11 Case. The utility services are essential for the Debtor to maintain its business and to operate its corporate offices and essential for daily operations. The studios and warehouse in Austin, Texas require electricity, telecommunications, internet, and other utility services to operate. Should any utility provider refuse or discontinue service, even for a brief period, the Debtor's business operations would be needlessly disrupted.
- 112. To the best of Debtor's knowledge, there are no defaults or arrearages with respect to the undisputed invoices for prepetition utility services.

#### **Proposed Adequate Assurance**

113. The Debtor intends to pay post-petition obligations owed to the Utility Providers in a timely manner. Cash held by the Debtor and cash generated in the ordinary course of

business will provide sufficient liquidity to pay the Debtor's Utility Service obligations in accordance with its prepetition practice.

114. The Debtor submits that the Debtor's ability to pay for future utility services with cash on hand in accordance with its prepetition practices (the "Proposed Adequate Assurance") constitutes sufficient adequate assurance to the Utility Providers in full satisfaction of Bankruptcy Code section 366.

#### Adequate Assurance Procedures

- 115. Any Utility Provider that is not satisfied with the Proposed Adequate Assurance may make a request for additional or different adequate assurance of future payment (each an "Additional Assurance Request") pursuant to the adequate assurance procedures set forth in the proposed Order (the "Adequate Assurance Procedures").
  - 116. The proposed Adequate Assurance Procedures are as follows:

Any Utility Provider desiring additional assurances of payment in the form of deposits, prepayments or otherwise must serve an Additional Assurance Request on the Notice Parties (as defined in the Order). An Additional Assurance Request may be made at any time.

Any Additional Assurance Request must: (i) be in writing; (ii) identify the location for which the Utility Services are provided; (iii) summarize the Debtor's payment history relevant to the affected account(s), including any security deposits; and (iv) explain why the Utility Provider believes the Proposed Adequate Assurance is not sufficient adequate assurance of future payment.

Upon the Debtor's receipt of any Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor shall promptly negotiate with such Utility Provider to resolve such Utility Provider's Additional Assurance Request.

The Debtor may, without further order from the Court, resolve any Additional Assurance Request by mutual agreement with a Utility Provider, and the Debtor may, in connection with any such agreement, provide such Utility Provider with additional adequate assurance of payment, including, but not limited to, cash deposits, prepayments or other forms of security if the Debtor believes that such adequate assurance is reasonable in its business judgment, subject to the terms of any cash collateral or other financing order entered by the Court; provided, however, that the Debtor shall maintain a summary

record of such agreements and their respective terms, and such summary record and the agreements themselves shall be available to any official committee appointed in this chapter 11 case and the U.S. Trustee upon request.

If the Debtor and the Utility Provider are not able to reach an alternative resolution within 14 days of receipt of the Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor will request a hearing before the Court to determine the adequacy of assurances of payment with respect to a particular Utility Provider (the "Determination Hearing"), pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 366(c)(3). Pending resolution of any such Determination Hearing, the Utility Provider filing such Additional Assurance Request shall be prohibited from altering, refusing, or discontinuing Utility Services to the Debtor on account of unpaid charges for prepetition services or on account of any objections to the Proposed Adequate Assurance.

In addition, if an amount relating to Utility Services provided post-petition by a Utility Provider is unpaid, and remains unpaid beyond any applicable grace period, such Utility Provider may request additional adequate assurance pursuant to the Adequate Assurance Procedures.

The Adequate Assurance Procedures sets forth a streamlined process for Utility Providers to address potential concerns with respect to the Proposed Adequate Assurance, while at the same time allowing the Debtor to continue its business operations uninterrupted. More specifically, the Adequate Assurance Procedures permits a Utility Provider to object to the Proposed Adequate Assurance by filing and serving an Additional Assurance Request upon certain notice parties. The Debtor, in its discretion, may then resolve any Additional Assurance Request by mutual agreement with the Utility Provider and without further order of the Court. If the Additional Assurance Request cannot be resolved by mutual agreement, the Debtor may seek Court resolution of the Additional Assurance Request. Unless and until a Utility Provider files an objection or serves an Additional Assurance Request, such Utility Provider shall be: (i) deemed to have received adequate assurance of payment "satisfactory" to such Utility Provider in compliance with Bankruptcy Code section 366; and (ii) forbidden to discontinue, alter or refuse services to, or discriminate against, the Debtor on account of any unpaid prepetition

charges, or require additional assurance of payment other than the Proposed Adequate Assurance.

- 117. I believe that the relief requested in the Utilities Motion is in the best interest of the Debtor's estate, its creditors, and all other parties in interest and will facilitate the Debtor's ability to operate its businesses in chapter 11 without disruption.
- 118. **Heslin/Lewis Relief from Stay Motion.** Plaintiffs in Texas and Connecticut have commenced suits against Alex Jones and FSS relating to certain statement made by Jones regarding the Sandy Hook shooting. Two of the Texas State Court Suits—*Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, and Owen Shroyer*, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001835, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas and *Scarlett Lewis v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC*, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-006623, in the 53rd District Court for Travis County, Texas—have been consolidated as the Heslin/Lewis Suit. Judge Maya Guerra Gamble, 459<sup>th</sup> Civil District Court, Travis County (the "<u>Texas State Court</u>") is presiding over the Heslin/Lewis Suit.
- 119. The trial of the Heslin/Lewis Suit was ongoing as of the Petition Date. On July 25, 2022, the Texas State Court held *voir dire* of jurors and a jury was empaneled. The Texas State Court began taking evidence in the Heslin/Lewis Suit on July 26, 2022. As the result of the filing of the Debtor's petition for chapter 11 relief, the Heslin/Lewis Suit is stayed by Bankruptcy Code section 362.
- 120. The Debtor believes that it is in the best interests of its estate and creditors for the Heslin/Lewis Suit to continue to judgement notwithstanding the commencement of this Chapter 11 Case. Substantial resources of the Debtor and Plaintiffs Heslin and Lewis have already been expended in the Heslin/Lewis Suit to empanel a jury and present evidence to that jury. Based on representations made by counsel for Heslin and Lewis in the Bankruptcy Case of InfoW, LLC

previously before this Court, the Debtor believes that Heslin and Lewis desire a final judgment from the Texas State Court and would seek relief from the automatic stay absent this request by the Debtor.<sup>7</sup>

121. The Debtor seeks emergency consideration of this Motion on or before 8:30 a.m. on August 1, 2022, or as soon thereafter as the Court's schedule will allow. A jury has been empaneled and trial is underway in the Heslin/Lewis Suit, scheduled to continue at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 1, 2022. Emergency relief is necessary to prevent delay in the Heslin/Lewis Suit to the detriment of the Debtor, Plaintiffs Heslin and Lewis, and the members of the jury serving in the Heslin/Lewis Suit.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 29th day of July, 2022.

W. Marc Schwartz, as Chief Restructuring Officer of Free Speech Systems, LLC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> In the InfoW, LLC chapter 11 case, counsel for the Texas Plaintiffs indicated at the April 22, 2022, hearing that the Texas Plaintiffs would be seeking relief from the automatic stay to continue litigation. According to counsel for the Texas Plaintiffs, the "cases are every bit as much about having a determination final made for them, them having their day in court in which Mr.Jones is held accountable for his conduct. So it's not just about a liquidating claims procedure, it is very emotional." *In re InfoW, LLC*, Case No. 22-60020 (Bankr. S.D. Tex.) [ECF No. 39] at 73:8-12.

#### Exhibit "A"

Comparative Profit and Loss Statement for FSS for the period January 1, 2022, through May 31, 2022 and the year ended December 31, 202.

#### Free Speech Systems LLC **Comparative Profit and Loss Statement** For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 and the Five Months Ended May 31, 2021

Income Product Sales Advertising Income Donations Fulfillment Services	\$ 52,661,022.49 5,761,997.51	\$ 10,969,769.29
Advertising Income Donations	\$	\$ 10.969.769.29
Donations	5,761,997.51	-,,
	, ,	-
Fulfillment Services	710,154.12	2,876,213.86
i dililinient dei vides	3,533,223.00	-
Administrative Services	1,903,898.95	-
Media Production Sales	-	475,000.00
Infowars Health	38,123.60	-
Prison Planet	4,877.62	-
Uncategorized Income	357,344.56	-
Total Income	64,970,641.85	14,320,983.15
Cost of Goods Sold	51,878,333.73	4,936,453.79
Gross Profit	\$ 13,092,308.12	\$ 9,384,529.36
Expenses		
Advertising & Promotion	364,387.73	107,994.01
Computer/IT/IP Expense	5,036,717.02	1,307,339.15
Insurance Expense	54,558.40	31,898.90
Office & Administrative Expense	277,863.76	26,373.93
Contract Services	1,591,039.49	359,592.69
Professional Fees	4,126,906.48	1,623,771.42
Occupancy	1,624,864.40	345,602.34
Utilities	115,461.34	127,855.13
Taxes Paid	50,281.71	4,409.71
Telephone Expense	304,776.62	85,341.24
Personnel & Payroll Expenses	6,879,811.39	2,157,298.60
Travel	975,711.28	64,900.23
Equipment Purchase	123,696.05	-
Production	393,712.54	-
Radio Show	145,177.77	-
Royalties	1,197,472.71	-
Equipment Rental	27,322.86	-
Meals and Entertainment	97,486.31	-
Uncategorized Expense	, -	103,815.00
Total Expenses	23,387,247.86	6,346,192.35
Net Operating Income	\$ (10,294,939.74)	\$ 3,038,337.01
Other Income	507,168.04	1,019,713.81
Other Expenses	18,963.30	206.15
Interest Expense	857,498.17	397,669.19
Donation	10,000.00	-
Amortization Expense	35,361.28	5,937.50
Depreciation Expense	209,888.00	98,750.20
AMEX Charges	-	1,653,383.31
Total Other Expenses	1,131,710.75	2,155,946.35
Net Other Income	(624,542.71)	(1,136,232.54)
Net Income	\$ (10,919,482.45)	\$ 1,902,104.47

#### Exhibit "B"

Comparative Balance Sheet of FSS as of May 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021.

#### Free Speech Systems LLC Comparative Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2021 and May 31, 2022

	 2021	2022
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 1,508,720.21	\$ 1,159,247.90
Accounts Receivable	10,187,121.95	10,013,413.22
Other Current Assets		
Invenotry	1,732,603.13	910,116.84
Prepaid Expenses	446,475.64	114,136.99
Due from PQPR	(500.00)	-
Advance To Elevated Solutions	27,870.00	-
Total Other Current Assets	2,206,448.77	1,024,253.83
Total Current Assets	13,902,290.93	12,196,914.95
Fixed Assets	1,679,438.66	1,580,779.46
Other Assets		
Intangible Assets	21,270.83	15,333.33
Security Deposits	534,560.00	534,560.00
Total Other Assets	555,830.83	549,893.33
Total Assets	\$ 16,137,560.42	\$ 14,327,587.74
Liabilities and Equity		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 4,732,966.89	\$ 1,217,685.58
Credit Cards	152,367.42	207,984.04
Other Current Liabilities		
David Jones Advance	150,000.00	150,000.00
Advances from PQPR	-	571,920.57
Due to PQPR	23,058,367.00	23,058,367.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	23,208,367.00	23,780,287.57
Total Current Liabilities	28,093,701.31	25,205,957.19
Long Term Liabilities		
Note Due to PQPR	54,580,405.22	53,845,074.41
Note Payable - Winnebago	93,505.62	82,524.37
Total Long Term Liabilities	54,673,910.84	53,927,598.78
Total Liabilities	\$ 82,767,612.15	\$ 79,133,555.97
Equity		
Member's Equity	(774,291.44)	-
Member Draws	(61,937,862.26)	(254,014.00)
Member Contributions	4,305,810.14	311,350.00
Opening Balance Equity	-	(66,765,408.70)
Retained Earnings	2,695,774.28	-
Net Income	(10,919,482.45)	 1,902,104.47
Total Equity	\$ (66,630,051.73)	\$ (64,805,968.23)
Total Liabilities and Equity		\$

#### Exhibit "C"

Comparative Cash Flow Statement for FSS for the period January 1, 2022, through May 31, 2022 and the year ended December 31, 2021.

# Free Speech Systems, LLC Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 and the Five Months Ended May 31, 2022

	2021	2022
Operating Activities		
Net Income	(\$10,919,482.45)	\$1,902,104.47
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by		
operations:	-	-
11000 Accounts Receivable	(10,187,121.95)	173,708.73
12000 Inventory	(94,344.61)	822,486.29
13000 Prepaid Expenses:13010 Prepaid Insurance	-	-
13000 Prepaid Expenses:13020 Prepaid Software Licenses	-	-
Pre-paid Vendor Deposits	-	-
13000 Prepaid Expenses:13040 Prepaid Legal	-	-
13000 Prepaid Expenses:13070 Other Prepaid Expenses	-	-
Advance To Elevated Solutions	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	(403,821.24)	65,286.20
Accumulated Depreciation	209,887.99	98,750.20
Accumulated Amortization	35,361.29	2,708.35
20000 Accounts Payable	3,005,707.55	(3,410,484.85)
22000 Credit Card Payable	(236,394.79)	207,984.04
Advances from PQPR	-	571,920.57
David Jones Advance	150,000.00	-
Due to PQPR	(2,229,789.04)	-
Interest Payable - PQPR	(200,022.99)	-
Net cash provided by operating activities	(\$20,870,020.24)	\$434,464.00
Investing Activities	-	-
15000 Property and Equipment	(522,121.65)	(91.00)
17100 Security Deposits	(500,000.00)	-
17300 Intangible Assets	(5,500.00)	3,229.15
Net cash provided by investing activities	(\$1,027,621.65)	\$3,138.15
Financing Activities		
27000 Note Due to PQPR:2021/11/10 \$25,300,000 Note	24,992,405.22	(735,330.81)
Note Payable - Winnebago	(18,832.81)	(10,981.25)
31000 Opening Balance Equity	-	-
Member's Equity	(23,193.36)	(98,098.40)
33000 Distributions to Member:33100 Member Draws	-	-
33000 Distributions to Member:Owner investments	-	-
Net Member Distributions	(2,100,362.40)	57,336.00
Net cash provided by financing activities	22,850,016.65	(787,074.46)
Net cash increase for period	\$952,374.76	(\$349,472.31)

Exhibit "D"

13-Week Cash Flow Forecast for FSS

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				-	Orecasted Between	Free Speech Systems LL 13 Week Cash 1 July 30, 2022 and Octob	Fore Speech Systems LLC Fore Casted 13 Week Cash Flow Budget Between July 30, 2022 and October 28, 2022	/ Budget						
Period Week Number	Period 07/30/2022- 08/05/2022 umber 1	08/06/2022- 08/12/2022 2	08/13/2022- 08/19/2022 3	08/20/2022- 08/26/2022 4	08/27/2022- 09/02/2022 5	09/03/2022- 09/09/2022 6	09/10/2022- 09/16/2022 7	09/17/2022- 09/23/2022 8	09/24/2022- 09/30/2022 9	10/01/2022- 10/07/2022 10	10/08/2022- 10/14/2022 11	10/15/2022- 10/21/2022 12	10/22/2022- 10/28/2022 13	Total
Income Product Sales	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 7,741,357.16
Advertising Donations	3,141.25		3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25		3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	1,440,499.36 \$ 40,836.21
Total Income	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26	9,222,692.75
Inventory Purchase	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(990,017.27)
Repay PQPR Inventory		٣	_	3,5									. !	(750,000.00)
Merchant Account Fees Shipping cost for drop ship orders	(26,797.01) (7,911.81)	) (26,797.01) ) (7,911.81)	(26,797.01) (7,911.81)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01) (7,911.81)	) (26,797.01) ) (7,911.81)	) (26,797.01) ) (7,911.81)	(26,797.01) (7,911.81)	(26,797.01) (7,911.81)	(26,797.01) (7,911.81)	(26,797.01) (7,911.81)	(26,797.01) (7,911.81)	(348,361.07) (102,853.59)
Fulfillment Services	(95,278.24)				-	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	_	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)	(95,278.24)	(1,238,617.15)
Processor Fees eCommerce Store Maintenance	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(309,654.29)
Texas Sales Tax	(5,337.87)		•	•					(5,337.87)		•			(16,013.61)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	(262,569.67)	(479,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(729,961.80)	(262,569.67)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(262,569.67)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(3,837,326.97)
Operating Expenses														
Advertising & Promotion	(3,041.98)	-			(3,041.98)	٠		,	(3,041.98)					(9,125.93)
Print Media	(3,000.00)	-	•	•	(3,000.00)	•	•	•	(3,000.00)		•	•		(9,000.00)
Radio Show Advertising	(11,500.00)	-			(11,500.00)				(11,500.00)					(34,500.00)
Total Advertising & Promotion Computer/IT/IP Expense	(17,541.98		•	•	(17,541.98)	•	•	•	(17,541.98)			•	•	(52,625.93)
Internet & TV services	(2,082.90)	-	(1,608.39)	,	(2,082.90)	,	(1,608.39)		(2,082.90)	,	,	(1,608.39)	,	(11,073.89)
Software License Fees	(140.80)		•	1	(140.80)	1		•	(140.80)	1	,		1	(422.40)
Server Hosting Service	(28,595.13)	'			(28,595.13)				(28,595.13)					(85,785.40)
Satellite Service	(137,282.93)	' '			(137,282.93)				(137,282.93)					(411,848.78)
Imaging License Fee	(9,201.25	-	•	•	(9,201.25)	•	•	•	(9,201.25)	,	•	•	,	(27,603.75)
Software & Apps	(5,000.00)	-	, , , ,	,	(5,000.00)	•	- 00	•	(5,000.00)	•	•	- 000	,	(15,000.00)
Website Hosting Total Computer/IT/IP Expense	(238,031.01		(1,874.89)		(238,031.01)		(1,874.89)		(238,031.01)			(1,874.89)		(719,717,72)
Insurance	(2,166.50)	,			(2,166.50)	•	,	,	(2,166.50)		•	,		(6,499.50)
Office & Administrative Expense											100	000		
Bank Fees & Service Charges Equipment Rental	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(1.989.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(5.969.69)
Office Supplies/Printing/Copy	(2.10)		_						-	(2.10)	(2.10)	(2.10)		(27.31)
Business Meals  Total Office & Administrative Expense	(280.46) e (2,318.36)	(280.46)	(280.46)	(280.46)	(280.46) (2,318.36)	(280.46)	(280.46)	(280.46)	(280.46) ( <b>2,318.36</b> )	(280.46) ( <b>328.46</b> )	(280.46) ( <b>328.46</b> )	(280.46) ( <b>328.46</b> )	(280.46)	(3,645.97)
Society Control	-				(45 990 00)				(00,000,10)					(00 0 0 2 2 2 7 5 1 )
Consulting Services	(22,670.00)		(12,000.00)		(22,670.00)		(12,000.00)		(22,670.00)			(12,000.00)		(104,010.00)
Utilities	,	,	(5 107 63)	,	,		(5 107 63)		,		,	(5 107 63)	,	(15 322 89)
HVAC	(256.19)	•	-	,	(256.19)	,	-	,	(256.19)	,	,	-		(768.58)
CAM Charges	(20,364.16)	-	•	•	(20,364.16)	•	,	•	(20,364.16)	,	•	,	,	(61,092.48)
Water & Sewer	(1,708.55)		1	1	(1,708.55)	1	1	•	(1,708.55)	1	•	1	1	(5,125.66)
Gas Service Pest Control	(132.09)	' '			(132.09)				(132.09)					(336.28)
Waste Management	(351.81)	- (			(351.81)				(351.81)				-	(1,055.43)
Total Utilities	(23,057.46	- (	(5,107.63)		(23,057.46)		(5,107.63)		(23,057.46)			(5,107.63)		(84,495.27)
Rent	(33,408.51)				(33,408.51)				(33,408.51)			٠		(100,225.53)
Office Security	(31,111.90)		•		(31,111.90)			•	(31,111.90)		•			(93,335.69)
Repair & Maintenance - Building Janitorial	(1,777.19) (5,983.33)				(1,777.19) (5,983.33)				(1,777.19) (5,983.33)					(5,331.56) (17,950.00)
Total Occupancy	(72,280.93)				(72,280.93)				(72,280.93)					(216,842.78)
Supplies	(1,258.02)	-			(1,258.02)				(1,258.02)					(3,774.07)

# Case 22-60043 Document 10 Filed in TXSB on 07/29/22 Page 38 of 38

			-	Forecasted 13 Week Cash Flow Budget Between July 30, 2022 and October 28, 2022	13 Week	asted 13 Week Cash Flow Between July 30, 2022 and October 28, 2022	Budget						
97/30/2022-	08/06/2022-	Period 07/30/2022- 08/06/2022- 08/13/2022- 08/20/2022- 08/05/2022 08/19/2022 08/19/2022 08/19/2022	08/20/2022-	08/27/2022-	09/03/2022-	09/10/2022-	09/17/2022-	09/24/2022-	10/01/2022-	10/08/2022-	10/15/2022-	10/22/2022-	Total
(18,337.88)	- (1	 		(18,337.88)	'	· •	,   	88)	,   	,	· •	,   	(55,013.65)
(168,467.44)	-	(168,467.44)	-	(168,467.44)	•	(168,467.44)		(168,467.44)		(168,467.44)		(168,467.44)	(1,179,272.08)
(13,971.09)	-	(13,971.09)	-	(13,971.09)	•	(13,971.09)	٠	(13,971.09)	•	(13,971.09)	-	(13,971.09)	(97,797.65)
(54,166.67)		(54,166.67)	-	(54,166.67)	•	(54,166.67)	٠	(54,166.67)	•	(54,166.67)	-	(54,166.67)	(379,166.67)
(236,605.20)	- (1	(236,605.20)	- (	(236,605.20)		(236,605.20)		(236,605.20)		(236,605.20)		(236,605.20)	(1,656,236.39)
(69.66)	(69.66)	(69:66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69:66)	(69.66)	(1,295.98)
•	(1,470.56)	-			(1,470.56)					(1,470.56)			(4,411.68)
(69.66)	(1,570.25)	(69.66)	(69:66) (	(69'66) (	(1,570.25)	(69.66)	(69'66)	(69'66)	(69.66)	(1,570.25)	(69:66) (	(69.66)	(5,707.66)
(680,347.03)		(1,898.71) (256,015.88)	(428.15)	(680,347.03)	(1,898.71)	(256,015.88)	(428.15)	(680,347.03)	(428.15)	(238,503.91)	(19,410.68)	(237,033.35)	(3,053,102.68)
(12,500.00)	(15,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(523,000.00)
(172,390.28)	-	(172,390.28)	-	(172,390.28)	•	(172,390.28)	٠	(172,390.28)	٠	(172,390.28)		•	(1,034,341.69)
(184,890.28)	(15,500.00)	(199,890.28)	(27,500.00)	(199,890.28)	(27,500.00)	(227,390.28)	(55,000.00)	(227,390.28)	(55,000.00)	(227,390.28)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(1,557,341.69)
•	٠		•		•	(52,992.00)		(35,328.00)		•	•	•	(88,320.00)
•	•	•	•		•	(57,876.00)		(40,352.00)	•	•		•	(98,228.00)
•	•		•	•	•	(40,000.00)		(00.000.00)	•			•	(100,000.00)
	•			•	•	(24,000.00)		(24,000.00)	٠			٠	(48,000.00)
						(174,868.00)		(159,680.00)					(334,548.00)
¢ (E30 176 73	1 \$ 101 350 75	(07 755 701 \$ 37 035 101 \$ (57 371 053) \$	v	220 000 T C (CT 251 0 CT 200 CDC 70) ¢ 700 CDC 70) ¢ 700 ADC 77 ¢ (CT 201 200 CT 6 212 200 21 ¢	27 020 066 2	(00 505 50)	CC 200 COC 2	(CE ) 75 5CE) \$	4 242 240 24	(cr 200 2	A 40 404 411 A (61 100 10)	** ==== +	

Payroll Tax
Alex Jones Salary
Total Personnel Expenses
Travel
Mileage/Parking/Tolls
Vehicle Leases
Total Operating Expenses
Total Operating Expenses
Total Operating Expenses
Total Operating Expenses
Payment on POPR Note
AMEX Payment
Total Other Expenses
Payment Total Other Expenses
Professional Fees
CRO Fees
Financial Adviosr Fee
Shannon & Lee LLP
Shannon & Lee LLP
Shannon & Lee LLP
Shannon & Lee LLP
Total Porfessional Fees
Total Porfessional Fees

Telephone
Personnel Expenses
Salaries & Wages - Base

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:	§	Case No. 22-60043
	§	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	
Debtor.	§	

## CONNECTICUT FAMILIES' WITNESS AND EXHIBIT LIST FOR EMERGENCY HEARING

Judge	Hon. Christopher M. Lopez
Hearing Date	Friday, August 12, 2022
Hearing Time	1:00 p.m. (CST)
Party's Name	David Wheeler, et al.
Attorney's Name	Ryan Chapple and Randy Williams
Attorney's Phone	512-477-5000
Nature of Proceeding	Debtor's Emergency Motion to Amend Interim Order
Nature of Proceeding	Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral [Dkt. 55]

#### WITNESS AND EXHIBIT LIST

David Wheeler, Francine Wheeler, Jacqueline Barden, Mark Barden, Nicole Hockley, Ian Hockley, Jennifer Hensel, Donna Soto, Carlee Soto Parisi, Carlos M. Soto, Jillian Soto-Marino, William Aldenberg, William Sherlach, and Robert Parker (collectively, the Connecticut Families) hereby submit this Witness and Exhibit List in connection with the hearing on *Debtor's Emergency Motion to Amend Interim Order Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral* (the Emergency Motion) [Dkt. 55] to be held on Friday, August 12, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. (central standard time):

Counsel for the Connecticut Families reserves the right to supplement, amend, or delete any witnesses or exhibits prior to the hearing. Counsel for the Connecticut Families reserves the right to supplement the Witness and Exhibit List with new witnesses and additional exhibits. Further, counsel reserves the right to use any exhibits presented by any other party and to ask the Court to take judicial notice of any document. Counsel for the Connecticut Families further reserves the right to introduce exhibits previously admitted.

#### WITNESS LIST

- W. Marc Schwartz
- Patrick Reilev
- Any witness listed or called by any other party.

#### **EXHIBIT LIST**

# IF YOU SEEK A COPY OF THE EXHIBITS, YOU CAN ACCESS THEM BY SUBMITTING A WRITTEN REQUEST TO ARLANA PRENTICE AT APRENTICE@CSTRIAL.COM.

Counsel for the Connecticut Families may offer for admission into evidence any of the following exhibits at the hearing:

No.	Description	Offer	Obj	Date Admit	Disposition after trial
1.	Interim Order Authorizing the Debtor's Use of Cash Collateral and Providing Partial Adequate Protection [Dkt. 41]				
2.	Declaration of W. Marc Schwartz in Support of Voluntary Petition and First Day Motions [Dkt. 10]				
3.	Blue Asension Logistics LLC - Certificate of Formation dated March 7, 2022				
4.	Email from aj76@alexjones.net to Patrick@infowars.com dated June 22, 2018 re: phone call with Marc Randazza				
5.	Email from aj76@alexjones.net to Patrick@infowars.com dated July 5, 2016 re: Boat Dock after the 4th				
6.	Blue Asension Logistics price list dated July 18, 2022				
7.	Text messages between Alex Jones and Patrick Reiley				

Any exhibits designated by other parties		
Any exhibits necessary for rebuttal		

Respectfully submitted this 12th day of August 2022.

/s/ Ryan E. Chapple

Ryan E. Chapple State Bar No. 24036354 Email:rchapple@cstrial.com CAIN & SKARNULIS PLLC 303 Colorado Street, Suite 2850 Austin, Texas 78701 512-477-5000 512-477-5011—Facsimile

and

Randy W. Williams
State Bar No. 21566850
Email: rww@bymanlaw.com
BYMAN & ASSOCIATES PLLC
7924 Broadway, Suite 104
Pearland, Texas 77581
281-884-9262
ATTORNEYS FOR WHEELER, ET AL.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Witness and Exhibit List has been served on counsel for Debtor, Debtor, and all parties receiving or entitled to notice through CM/ECF on this 12th day of August 2022.

<u>/s/ Ryan E. Chapple</u> Ryan E. Chapple

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:

\$ Case No. 22-60043

\$ FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,

\$ Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)

\$ Debtor.

# **EXHIBIT 1**

United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Texas

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

ENTERED
August 05, 2022
Nathan Ochsner. Clerk

in re:	8	
	§	Case No. 22-60043
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC.,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	
Debtor.	§	

### INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR'S USE OF CASH COLLATERAL AND PROVIDING PARTIAL ADEQUATE PROTECTION

On July 29, 2022, the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "Debtor" or "FSS") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "Case"), filed its Emergency Motion for an Interim and Final Order (I) Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(b) and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Pre-Petition Secured Lender (the "Motion"). In the Motion, the Debtor requested, inter alia, entry of this interim order (this "Order") pursuant to Sections 105, 361, and 363 of title 11 of the United States Code,11 U.S.C. §§ 101, et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), and in accordance with Rules 2002, 4001, and 9014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), authorizing the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral (as hereinafter defined), as set forth herein. The Court, having considered the Motion, and having held an interim hearing on the Motion on August 3, 2022 (the "Interim Hearing"), and having considered the evidence presented or proffered and the statements and representations of the parties on the record at the Interim Hearing; and all objections, if any, to the entry of this Interim Order having been resolved by agreement or order of the Court or overruled; and after due deliberation and consideration and sufficient cause appearing therefor;

- 1. The Chapter 11 Case. On July 29, 2022 (the "Petition Date") the Debtor commenced the above captioned case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas (this "Court").
- 2. <u>Debtor-in-Possession</u>. The Debtor continues to operate its business and manage its property as debtor-in-possession pursuant to Section 1182(2) of the Bankruptcy Code. To date, no trustee or examiner

has been appointed in this Case. This Interim Order shall constitute findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7052.

- 3. <u>Jurisdiction and Venue</u>. This Court has jurisdiction over the Case, the Motion and the parties and property affected hereby pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(b) and 1334. Consideration of the Motion is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue of the Case and the Motion in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S. §§ 1408 and 1409. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 4001, and the Local Rules of this Court (the "<u>Local Rules</u>").
- 4. <u>Committee Formation</u>. To date, no official committee (a "<u>Committee</u>") of unsecured creditors, equity interest holders, or other parties in interest has been appointed in the Case.
- Notice. On July 29, 2022, the Debtor served copies of the Motion and notice of the Interim Hearing to all creditors and parties in interest entitled to such notice in compliance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002, 4001, 9014, and the Local Rules, including: (i) the Office of the United States Trustee for this District, (ii) those creditors holding the twenty (20) largest unsecured claims against the Debtor's estate, (iii) PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC Trust ("PQPR"), and (vi) any other secured parties of record. Under the circumstances, such notice of the Interim Hearing and the emergency relief requested in the Motion is due, proper, and sufficient notice and complies with Bankruptcy Rule 4001 and the Local Rules, and no other or further notice of the Interim Hearing or the relief granted in this Interim Order is necessary or required.
- 6. Immediate Need for Use of Cash Collateral. The Debtor asserts that an immediate and critical need exists for the Debtor to use the alleged cash collateral<sup>1</sup> of PQPR as set forth in the budget defined below (the "Cash Collateral") in order to continue the operation of its business. Without such use of Cash Collateral, the Debtor asserts that it will not be able to pay post-petition direct operating expenses and obtain goods and services needed to carry on its business in a manner that will avoid irreparable harm to the Debtor's estate. The Debtor further asserts that its ability to use Cash Collateral is necessary to preserve and maintain the going concern value of the Debtor's estate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As defined at 11 U.S.C. § 363(a).

- 7. <u>Conditional Consent to Use of Cash Collateral</u>. The Debtor seeks authorization to use Cash Collateral to pay the Debtor's ordinary and necessary operating expenses set forth in the budget attached to this Order as Exhibit A (the "<u>Budget</u>") for the period (the "<u>Interim Period</u>") from the Petition Date through and including August 26, 2022 (the "<u>Termination Date</u>"). The lender has agreed to the Debtor's use of Cash Collateral during the Interim Period exclusively in accordance with the terms, conditions, and limitations set forth in this Order and the Budget.
- 8. <u>Good Cause/Fair and Reasonable Terms</u>. The Debtor asserts that good cause has been shown for the entry of this Order. Among other things, entry of this Order will minimize disruption of the business and operations of the Debtor and permit the Debtor to maintain the going concern value of its business. The use of Cash Collateral authorized hereunder is necessary, essential, and appropriate and is in the best interest of, and will benefit, the Debtor, its creditors, and the Debtor's bankruptcy estate as it will, among other things, provide the Debtor with the necessary liquidity to (i) avoid immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor and its bankruptcy estate; and (ii) preserve and maximize the value of the Debtor's business and assets. The terms and conditions of the use of Cash Collateral and the security interests, liens, rights, and priorities granted to the lenders hereunder are fair and appropriate under the circumstances.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. Motion Granted. The Motion is hereby granted on an interim basis as set forth herein.
- 2. <u>Interim Order</u>. This Order shall be considered an interim cash collateral order and shall be binding upon all parties and upon all subsequently appointed court officers, including any trustee appointed in the Case under Chapter 7 or Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. <u>DIP Account.</u> The Debtor shall maintain debtor in possession ("<u>DIP</u>") accounts at Axos Bank which accounts shall contain all operating revenues and any other source of cash constituting Cash Collateral, which is (or has been) generated by and is attributable to the Debtor's business (the "<u>DIP Account"</u>). All cash generated by the Debtor or from the Debtor's business or assets, including any cash held in any of the Debtor's pre-petition bank accounts, shall be immediately transferred by the Debtor to the DIP Account. The Debtor

shall be prohibited from withdrawing or using Cash Collateral funds from the DIP Account except as provided for in the Budget, this Order, or pursuant to further order of the Court.

- 4. <u>Terms of Cash Collateral Use</u>. The Debtor is hereby authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay the items set forth in the Budget, and up to the respective aggregate amount of disbursements set forth in the Budget for any week during the Interim Period, subject to the Permitted Variance (as hereinafter defined). The Permitted Variance shall be defined as 10% per line item and 20% of the overall Budget. The Debtor shall not use, sell, or expend, directly or indirectly, the Cash Collateral except pursuant to the Budget and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Order.
- 5. No Payments to Insiders. Other than as provided for in the Budget, the Debtor shall not make any payment to or for the benefit of any insider of the Debtor, as that term is defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code. Payments to any insider during the Interim Period shall not exceed \$20,000 in the aggregate.
- 6. Payment to PQPR for Inventory Purchase. Notwithstanding the limitation on payments to insiders set forth in the preceding paragraph, the Debtor is authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay PQPR \$250,000 as provided in the Budget for "Repay PQPR Inventory" (the "PQPR Payment"). The PQPR Payment shall not be used to pay down the PQPR Notes (as defined in the Motion). Creditors and parties in interest shall have thirty (30) days from the date a notice is filed on the docket that the PQPR Payment has been issued to object to the appropriateness of that payment and file pleadings with the Court seeking to clawback the PQPR Payment.
- 7. <u>Further Authorization</u>. The Debtor is hereby authorized to enter into all agreements pursuant to the terms of this Order necessary to allow the Debtor to use Cash Collateral subject to the terms of this Order in the amounts and for the expenses set forth on the Budget. The Debtor is authorized to collect and receive all accounts receivable and other operating revenues and immediately deposit same in the DIP Account.
- 8. <u>Taxes</u>. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to grant PQPR (the "<u>Pre-Petition Lender</u>") liens which are senior to pre- and post-petition statutory ad valorem real property tax liens. The Debtor shall

remain current in all post-petition tax payments and reporting obligations, including, but not limited to, all ad valorem real property taxes and federal trust fund taxes.

- 9. Adequate Protection Replacement Liens. As adequate protection for any diminution in value of each of the Pre-Petition Lender's interest in the Debtor's collateral, if any, including Cash Collateral, resulting from the imposition of the automatic stay with respect to the Collateral and/or the Debtor's use, sale or lease of the Collateral during the Case (the "Diminution in Value"), the Pre-Petition Lender is hereby granted, effective as of the Petition Date, valid, binding, enforceable, and automatically perfected liens (the "Replacement Liens") in all currently owned or hereafter acquired property and assets of the Debtor, of any kind or nature, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, wherever located, now owned or hereafter acquired or arising (excluding avoidance or other causes of action arising under chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code), and all proceeds and products of the foregoing (collectively, the "Adequate Protection Collateral") to the same extent as existed on the Petition Date. The Replacement Liens granted pursuant to this Order shall be subject to the Carve Out.
- 10. <u>Carve Out.</u> The Replacement Liens and Adequate Protection Priority Claim granted herein shall be subject to (a) unpaid fees payable to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court or the United States Trustee; (b) subject to the Budget, court-approved administrative expense claims of estate professionals, employed pursuant to order of this Court (collectively, "<u>Estate Professionals</u>"), for incurred but unpaid fees, expenses and other costs; fees and expenses of the appointed Subchapter V Trustee (all such carve-out amounts referenced above, collectively, the "<u>Carve Out</u>").
- 11. <u>Subsequent Modification of Order</u>. If any or all of the provisions of this Order are hereafter modified, vacated or stayed, such modification, vacation or stay shall not affect the validity of any obligation, indebtedness or liability incurred by the Debtor from the Petition Date through the effective date of such modification, vacation or stay, or the validity or enforceability of any security interest, lien or priority authorized or created by this Order.

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12. Reservation of Rights. Nothing herein shall constitute a finding or ruling by this Court that

any alleged and disputed lien or alleged and disputed security interest held by the alleged Pre-Petition Lender

in respect of the purported PQPR Notes (as defined in the Motion) is valid, senior, enforceable, prior, perfected,

or nonavoidable. Moreover, nothing herein shall prejudice the rights of any party-in-interest, including but not

limited to the Debtor, the Subchapter V Trustee, any official committee appointed in the Chapter 11 Case or

any other creditor, to challenge the validity, priority, enforceability, seniority, avoidability, perfection, or extent

of any alleged and disputed lien or alleged and disputed security interest held by the alleged Pre-Petition Lender

in respect of the purported PQPR Notes.

13. Final Cash Collateral Hearing: A final hearing on the Motion shall be held before this Court

on August 24, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Central time.

Signed: August 05, 2022

Christopher Lopez

United States Bankruptcy Judge

#### <del>Case **4:23**ee229**6464**3 Elocument6412 Fiilibebiro F245/23/23/8/05/25D F7</mark>ngge720198of 262</del>

#### **Forecasted Interim Cash Collateral Budget**

Between July 29, 2022 and August 26, 2022

Period	07/30/2022- 08/05/2022	08/06/2022- 08/12/2022	08/13/2022- 08/19/2022	08/20/2022- 08/26/2022
Week Nun	nber 1	2	3	4
Income				
Product Sales	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01	\$ 595,489.01
Advertising	-	-	-	480,166.46
Donations	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25	3,141.25
Total Income	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72
Selling & Product Costs				
Inventory Purchase	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)
Repay PQPR Inventory	-	(250,000.00)		-
Merchant Account Fees	(26,797.01)			(26,797.01)
Shipping cost for drop ship orders	(7,911.81)			
Fulfillment Services	(95,278.24)			
Processor Fees	(23,819.56)		(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)
eCommerce Store Maintenance	(27,270.00)		-	-
Texas Sales Tax	(5,337.87)		- (220,054,00)	(220.054.00)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	(262,569.67)	(479,961.80)	(229,961.80)	(229,961.80)
Operating Expenses				
Advertising & Promotion				
Advertising & Promotion	(3,041.98)		-	-
Print Media	(3,000.00)		-	-
Radio Show Advertising	(11,500.00)		-	
Total Advertising & Promotion	(17,541.98)	-	-	-
Computer/IT/IP Expense	(2.002.00)		(4.500.30)	
Internet & TV services	(2,082.90)		(1,608.39)	-
Software License Fees	(140.80)		-	-
Server Hosting Service	(28,595.13)		-	-
CDN Video Cloud Storage	(55,728.00)		-	-
Satellite Service	(137,282.93)		-	-
Imaging License Fee Software & Apps	(9,201.25)		-	-
Website Hosting	(5,000.00)	-	(266.50)	-
Total Computer/IT/IP Expense	(238,031.01)		(1,874.89)	<del></del>
Insurance	(2,166.50)		(1,074.05)	_
Office & Administrative Expense	(2,100.50)			
Bank Fees & Service Charges	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)	(45.90)
Equipment Rental	(1,989.90)		-	-
Office Supplies/Printing/Copy	(2.10)		(2.10)	(2.10)
Business Meals	(280.46)			
Total Office & Administrative Expense				
·	,	, ,	, ,	, ,
Outsourced Services	-	-	-	-
Consulting Services	-	-	-	-
Utilities				
Utility Deposit	(10,000.00)			
Electricity	-	-	(5,107.63)	-
HVAC	(256.19)	-	-	-
CAM Charges	(20,364.16)	-	-	-
Water & Sewer	(1,708.55)	-	-	-
Gas Service	(132.09)	-	-	-
Pest Control	(244.65)		-	-
Waste Management	(351.81)		=	-
Total Utilities	(33,057.46)	-	(5,107.63)	-
Occupancy				
Rent	(33,408.51)		-	-
Office Security	(31,111.90)		-	-
Repair & Maintenance - Building	(1,777.19)		-	-
Janitorial	(5,983.33)	-	-	-



Period+A5:E83	07/30/2022-	08/06/2022-	08/13/2022-	08/20/2022-
	08/05/2022	08/12/2022	08/19/2022	08/26/2022
Total Occupancy	(72,280.93)	-	-	-
Supplies	(1,258.02)	-	-	-
Telephone	(18,337.88)	-	-	
Personnel Expenses				
Salaries & Wages - Base	(168,467.44)	-	(168,467.44)	-
Payroll Tax	(13,087.76)	-	(13,087.76)	-
Alex Jones Salary	(10,000.00)	-	(10,000.00)	<u>-</u> _
Total Personnel Expenses	(191,555.20)	-	(191,555.20)	-
Travel				
Mileage/Parking/Tolls	(99.69)	(99.69)	(99.69)	(99.69)
Vehicle Leases		(1,470.56)	-	<u>-</u> _
Total Travel Expenses	(99.69)	(1,570.25)	(99.69)	(99.69)
Total Operating Expenses	(576,647.03)	(1,898.71)	(198,965.88)	(428.15)
Non-Operating Expenses				
Payment on PQPR Note	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
AMEX Payment	_	-	-	-
Total Other Expenses	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
Professional Fees				
CRO Fees	-	-	-	-
Financial Adviosr Fee	-	-	-	-
Shannon & Lee LLP	-	-	-	-
Ray Battaglia	_	-	-	
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	-	-	-	-
Total Cash Flow	\$ (245,586.44)	\$ 111,769.75	\$ 164,702.59	\$ 843,406.77

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:

\$ Case No. 22-60043

\$ FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,

\$ Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)

\$ Debtor.

# **EXHIBIT 2**

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS VICTORIA DIVISION

In re:	) Case No. 22- <u>60043</u>
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
Debtor.	) )

## DECLARATION OF W. MARC SCHWARTZ IN SUPPORT OF VOLUNTARY PETITION AND FIRST DAY MOTIONS

- I, W. Marc Schwartz, hereby declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, under penalty of perjury as follows:
  - 1. My name is W. Marc Schwartz ("Schwartz").
- 2. I submit this Declaration based on personal knowledge in support of the voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") filed by Free Speech Systems, LLC (the "Debtor" or "FSS") on the date hereof (the "Petition Date"). I further submit this Declaration to assist this Court and parties-in-interest in understanding the circumstances that compelled the commencement of the Debtor's chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case").
- 3. The relief sought in the First Day Motions should enable the Debtor to administer its estate effectively. I have reviewed the First Day Motions, and I believe the requested relief is necessary to ensure the success of the Chapter 11 Case.
- 4. Except as otherwise indicated, all facts as set forth in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, my review of relevant documents, or my opinion based upon experience, knowledge, and information concerning the Debtor. If called upon to testify, I would testify competently to the facts set forth in this Declaration.

- 5. I am a founder of Schwartz & Associates, LLC ("SALLC"). SALLC has its principal offices at 712 Main Street, Suite 1830, Houston, Texas. SALLC has been engaged in business since 2019. The primary business of SALLC is bankruptcy and financial restructuring consulting, serving as financial/economic experts in civil litigation matters and, serving as court appointed receivers in federal and state court matters. The firm is also licensed as an Investigations Company by the Texas Department of Public Safety.
- 6. SALLC's services include financial forensics, supervising business operations as a trustee, examiner with expanded powers or receiver, valuing business assets and income tax related services. My firm represents individuals, companies and courts in a variety of assignments, including serving as a Chief Restructuring Officer, financial adviser, trustee or examiner in bankruptcy matters; working as a testifying or consulting expert on damages and economic issues for parties involved in litigation and as a special master for courts where litigation matters are pending; serving as a court appointed receiver in state and federal courts.
- 7. I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University and a Master's in Business Administration degree from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. I am licensed in Texas as a Certified Public Accountant, Certified in Financial Forensics by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, a Certified Fraud Examiner, and a Licensed Private Investigator.
- 8. I have extensive experience serving as a fiduciary in bankruptcy cases as either a Chapter 11 Trustee, a Chief Restructuring Officer, or an Examiner with expanded powers. I have also acted as a receiver over several individuals and entities under state and federal law.
- 9. On June 7, 2022, the Debtor confirmed my retention as the Debtor's Chief Restructuring Officer (the "CRO") and SALLC as its financial advisors as of May 19, 2022.

10. On the Petition Date, FSS filed its petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") with the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Texas, Victoria Division (the "Bankruptcy Court"). FSS properly qualified to file as a Subchapter V Debtor under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### RELEVANT FACTS AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

#### A. Background to Creation of Free Speech Systems, LLC

- 11. Born in 1974, Alex Jones ("<u>Alex Jones</u>" or "<u>Jones</u>") is the son of Carol Jones, a homemaker, and David Jones, a prominent dentist. Jones moved from Dallas to Austin as a teenager.
- 12. In the early 1990s, Austin was a dirt-cheap home to artists, musicians, and zine makers<sup>1</sup>. According to Shannon Burke, a local talk-radio host, "the perfect incubator for [Alex Jones]. It's that libertarian and weirdness blend that wouldn't have worked had he been born in Milwaukee." *Buzzfeed*, May 6, 2017 (Charlie Warzel) (hereafter "*Buzzfeed*").
- 13. Austin Public Access ("<u>ACTV</u>"), the TV station where Jones got his first big break showcased that weirdness. In the 1990s, ACTV "was wild and unmoderated like the YouTube of its time," Brian Blake, the station's longtime producer and IT director, explained. For Jones, then just out of high school, it was a huge opportunity a chance to spend an hour in front of a camera saying pretty much anything he wanted to Austin's night owls. *Buzzfeed*.
- 14. From his first broadcast, Jones targeted the threat of the <u>New World Order</u>, which he had first encountered in the book *None Dare Call It Conspiracy*, discovered on his father's bookshelf. His earliest monologues were stark and raw; Jones would deliver his monologues

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Wikipedia defines it as "a small circulation self-published work of original or appropriated texts and images usually reproduced via photocopier" - although the term is often used to describe any magazine aimed at a niche audience.

from a bare table, surrounded by stacks of newspaper and often fumbling his words. But the message and the intensity were indistinguishable from the Jones on the air in 2017. *Buzzfeed*. Jones was a modest public-access success.

- 15. Alex and his father then found an opportunity in 1996 for Alex to do a talk show on the Austin talk radio station KJFK-FM. He started hosting a show called "The Final Edition". To secure Jones a spot on the station, Jones' father became his son's first on-air advertiser. The show lasted for three years. "Alex Jones" *Southern Poverty Law Center ("SPLC")*.
  - 16. Alex Jones was a natural.
- 17. The "Final Edition" lasted until 1999, when he was fired because his views made it difficult to attract commercial sponsors despite high ratings and winning the best Austin talk radio host show awards. *SPLC*.
- 18. Upon being terminated, Alex Jones immediately set up an ISDN line in his house and began independently broadcasting via Infowars.com and national syndication by Genesis Communications to AM, FM, and shortwave stations. *SPLC*.
- 19. When Jones started broadcasting on the radio in the late 1990s, he closely followed the talk radio playbook, he built a large and devoted audience of far-right conspiracy-theory believers. He sold radio advertising, videos, books, and T-shirts. From there, he expanded by establishing a website, making, and selling his own conspiracy-oriented documentary films, and, then launching PrisonPlanet.tv, a subscription-only streaming-video service that offered instant access to the films. *Intelligencer*, May 2017. Alex's syndication soon reached almost 100 stations. *SPLC*.
- 20. The predecessor operation of FSS in 2004 was an operation with just a handful of employees. Alex Jones had a tiny office in the far south of Austin. He had two employees at

that time. One of the two employees tended to the warehouse operations. It was also not clear where Alex Jones broadcast at that time. *Jacobson Deposition*, P30.<sup>2</sup>

- 21. As his business grew, Alex formed FSS in November 2007 to support his various family business opportunities. Getting into broadcasting had been a family idea, and running a business associated with his radio broadcasting continued to be a family business.
- 22. By 2010, Jones had a full-size facility. He had over 60 people on his staff and a full-blown studio. *Jacobson Deposition*, P30. FSS's operation in 2010 were dramatically different in "every way, shape and form", *Jacobson Deposition*, PP30-31, from his 1990 operations.
- 23. While Alex's broadcasting technology significantly improved, he did not retain professional managers to run his burgeoning business. It continued to be run by members of his family, friends, and employees whom he had known in high school.
- 24. After 2013, Alex Jones' media formula changed from website and films to a website and radio. *Jacobson Deposition*, PP30-31. While his media formula changed, Alex still did not employ professionally trained and experienced business managers at FSS.
- 25. The post 2013 business model of FSS recognized that it was a "single talent business" *to wit*, Alex Jones, singularly drove sales on his Infowars.com website. FSS began to make available dietary supplements: products such as InfoWarsLife Silver Bullet Colloidal Silver; Infowars Life Brain Force Plus; InfoWars Life Super Male Vitality; Infowars Life Liver Shield. Supplements "completely transformed" Infowars. Most of FSS' revenue to this day comes from sales of dietary supplements.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Oral and Videotaped Deposition of Robert Jacobson, March 20, 2019, Scarlett Lewis v. Alex. E. Jones (Texas).

26. Alex Jones' show is syndicated by the Genesis Communications Network ("GCN"). Instead of charging syndication fees to radio stations, GCN uses what is called the barter model. GCN offers the content for no cost, and, in exchange, GCN reserves the right to sell national advertising against the programs, generally four minutes per hour.

### B. Present Business of Free Speech Systems, LLC

- 27. FSS is presently engaged in the business of producing and syndicating Jones' radio and video talk shows and selling products targeted to Jones' loyal fan base via the Internet. Today, FSS produces Alex Jones' syndicated news/talk show (The Alex Jones Show) from Austin, Texas, airs via GCN on over 100 radio stations across the United States and via the internet through the website Infowars.com.
- 28. On its Infowars.com website today, FSS makes available to customers dietary supplements ("Supplements"), including Bodease, Krill Oil, Ultimate Fish Oil, DNA Force Plus, Vitamin D3 Gummies, Ultimate Immune Support Pack, Pollen Block, and other health products, including Tea Tree Shampoo. The website also has available books, t-shirts, and other products ("Non-Supplements") Jones advertises during his radio talk show.
- 29. The vast majority of FSS revenues comes from the sale of Supplements, which have traditionally been supplied by or contracted for by PQPR, an affiliated entity, described below.
- 30. As of July 15, 2022, FSS employs a workforce of 58 individuals, the majority of whom have a direct reporting relationship to Alex Jones. In one building in Austin, Texas, FSS has four studios where online and traditional broadcast production is provided. The Alex Jones Show and other shows are produced in these studios. An adjacent building contains administrative offices and customer support. In a separate location in Austin, Texas, FSS has a

building where warehousing and product sales fulfillment takes place. *David Jones Deposition*, P13.<sup>3</sup> All the buildings and offices are leased.

31. FSS has a unique audience that is highly loyal to Alex Jones and purchases products based on Alex Jones' credibility. Product sales from Infowars.com stores are a significant source of revenue for FSS. Historically, approximately 80% of FSS' revenue is derived from product sales, of the remainder, 11% is historically from advertising and the balance from a variety of sources. *David Jones Deposition*, P47.

### C. The Relationship Between Alex Jones and FSS

- 32. FSS, as employer, and Alex Jones, as employee, are parties to an Employment Agreement and Accompanying Employee Annuity and Life Insurance Plan, dated April 14, 2022 (the "Jones Employment Agreement").
- 33. Under the Jones Employment Agreement, Jones agrees to promote products and services agreed to by the Employer, and permits Alex to use FSS's trademarks, tradenames, intellectual property and web site, including the Infowars website. Jones Employment Agreement, ¶¶ 3, 4.
- 34. All of FSS' wages to him are subject to the Employee Annuity And Life Insurance Plan (Employee Annuity Plan), attached to the Jones Employment Agreement. Jones Employment Agreement. Under the Employee Annuity Plan, the employee may designate a portion or all his/her salary to purchase an annuity and life insurance, in amounts determined by the employee, from an insurance company to be selected. Employees with more than two years of full-time consecutive service with FSS are eligible to participate in the Employee Annuity Plan.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Oral and Videotaped Deposition of David R. Jones, May 16, 2019, Eric Lafferty, et. al. v. Alex Emeric Jones, et. al. (Connecticut).

35. The CRO is continuing to evaluate whether the estate has causes of action to claw back any payments or distributions to Alex Jones.

### D. The Debtor' Owners and Management

- 36. At its formation, Alex Jones and Kelly Jones owned 49% and 51% of the membership interests in FSS.
- 37. Alex and Kelly Jones divorced in 2015. Upon their divorce, Jones became the sole owner of FSS.
  - 38. Since then, Alex Jones has been the Managing Member of FSS.
- 39. Since inception, Alex Jones has been a "single talent business", *to wit,* without him and his show, there would neither be any InfoWars nor internet sales. Unfortunately, Jones failed to bring on board the necessary management skills to manage what was once a small family business but had become a \$70 to \$80 million a year enterprise. Jones and his employees continued to run the business with an inverted T structure, where essentially everyone reported to Alex, as though it was still a family business.
- 40. Since May 19, 2022, FSS has retained Schwartz as its Chief Restructuring Officer ("CRO"), with broad powers to review the company's past financial performance, analyze the condition of FSS's books and records and evaluate whether FSS is a business that can be reorganized. SALLC was retained to perform various accounting and forensic work associated with his mandate.
- 41. In addition, FSS retained Jeffery Shulse ("Shulse") as FSS' Business Manager. Shulse has been parachuted into FSS's offices in Austin to take over FSS' accounting and financial functions and work with Schwartz and SALLC to (a) implement viable accounting and

financial management functions; (b) implement sorely needed internal accounting controls, and (c) establish uniform accounting expense and personnel policies. With a BBA in accounting from the University of Houston and a J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center, Shulse has over twenty years' experience in providing business, operational and financial consulting to businesses and as a CFO and CEO of businesses in the oil and gas production and construction industries.

- 42. The preliminary conclusions reached by me about FSS are:
- (a) Although FSS had a controller and two bookkeepers, the 2021 general ledger had not been completed and the books have not been closed, and almost no transactions have been recorded in the 2022 general ledger. As a result, no financial statements were produced for FSS for the 18 months preceding my engagement. SALLC found no bank reconciliations for 2021 or 2022;
- (b) FSS personnel expressed no criticism of not receiving any financial reports to assist them in managing their functional responsibilities and, in fact, appear to be unaware of the management information available to them from timely prepared and detailed financial statements and analyses;
- (c) Internal accounting controls were inadequate, including lack of segregation of duties, written monthly, quarterly, and annual closing schedules, lack of supervisory review of key accounting functions including vendor set up, bank reconciliations, inventory reconciliations, or billings to PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC ("PQPR");
- (d) Invoices from PQPR for payment for product it had acquired and sold to FSS were not paid or not paid in full, resulting in a liability to PQPR in excess of \$50 million.

### E. The Relationship of FSS and PQPR

### Background Information About PQPR

- 43. PQPR was founded in 2013. The business began operations in September 2013.
- 44. PQPR is engaged in the online sale and marketing of primarily nutritional supplements which it sells under its own label as well as acquiring nutritional supplements for FSS which it markets under its InfoWars label. PQPR also advertises its products exclusively through FSS/The Alex Jones Show for which it receives a bulk discount. PQPR also sells outside the FSS/Alex Jones show channels.
  - 45. PQPR is managed by David Jones. Alex Jones is not a manager of PQPR.
  - 46. The current owners and their ownership interests in PQPR are as follows:

	% Owned
PLJR Holdings	80.00%
JLJR Holdings, LLC	20.00%
Total	100.00%

- 47. Through AEJ Austin Holdings, LLC, Jones has an effective 72% membership interest in PLJR Holdings, LLC ("PLJR"). Mrs. Carol Jones owns an 80.00% interest in, and Dr. David Jones holds the remaining 20.00% membership interest in JLJR Holdings, LLC ("JLJR").
  - 48. Alex Jones is not a manager of either PLJR or JLJR.

### Commercial Relationship Between FSS and PQPR

49. As discussed previously, FSS sells two groups of products on its Infowarsstore.com website: Supplements and Non-Supplements. The selection of nutritional supplements to be sold is determined by Alex Jones, David Jones, and staff of FSS. Currently, FSS places orders for Supplements with PQPR which then places the order with the original manufacturer. FSS pays PQPR, as its agent, funds required to purchase product, which then pays

the manufacturer and manages the delivery and certification of the products. Pricing of the Supplements is done by FSS.

- 50. Non-Supplements consist of "Infowars" merchandise, ranging from T-shirts to silver coins. This group of merchandise is handled solely by FSS employees, starting from the selection of the merchandise, placing of the merchandise on the Infowars website, ordering of and paying for the product.
- 51. Alex Jones promotes both the Supplements and Non-Supplements during his daily broadcast and is the principal driving factor promoting the sale of products to his audience.
- 52. In the past, PQPR ordered and paid for Supplements which it marked up and then sold to FSS for distribution. As a result of FSS's inability to pay PQPR in full for the PQPR merchandise over several years, FSS became indebted to PQPR in a significant amount by 2020. The parties memorialized the indebtedness between the parties in 2020.

### The Entry into the Secured Notes

- 53. On or about August 13, 2020, FSS and PQPR executed a Promissory Note in the principal amount of \$29,588,000.00 made payable to PQPR, which memorialized the accrued obligations of FSS to PQPR through December 31, 2018 (the "2020 Secured Note"). The 2020 Secured Note matures on August 1, 2050, interest is due and payable annually. The 2020 Secured Note bears interest at 1.75%.
- 54. The 2020 Secured Note is secured by a Security Agreement entered into as of August 13, 2020, between FSS and PQPR (the "2020 Security Agreement"). The 2020 Security Agreement provides in paragraph II that the "Collateral" securing the repayment of the 2020 Secured Note consists of all personal property owned by FSS.
- 55. On November 18, 2020, PQPR filed a UCC-1 Financing Statement with the Texas Secretary of State ("November 18 UCC Financing Statement").

- 56. On or about November 10, 2021, FSS and PQPR entered into a second Promissory Note in the principal amount of \$25,300,000.00 made payable to PQPR, which memorialized the accrued obligations of FSS to PQPR from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020 (the "2021 Secured Note"). Principal and interest of \$1,939,644.81 is due on each anniversary of the 2021 Secured Note. The 2021 Secured Note bears interest at 1.8% and matures on November 10, 2036.
- 57. The 2021 Secured Note is secured by the 2020 Security Agreement and the November 18 UCC Financing Statement.
- 58. As of the Petition Date, \$53,646,6876.82 of principal and \$11,787.16 of interest are owed under the two Secured Notes.
- 59. PQPR has been the primary source of Supplements for the Infowars website and has contributed to most of the revenue attributable to FSS. Maintaining access to the Supplement supply, along with Alex Jones being on the air, is critical to the reorganization of FSS.

### F. FSS Needs a Credit Card Processor

- 60. An essential component of FSS's Infowarsstore.com business with which it could not survive is a credit card processor. Without the ability to process credit card transaction, FSS's business could not operate. Processing a credit card transaction is a complex process. The process was made more difficult when financial institutions and media sites deplatformed FSS starting in 2018.
- 61. Credit card processing refers to a multi-step process necessary to successfully complete payments made with a credit card. Credit card processing involves numerous entities. This includes the consumer, merchant, payment gateway, credit card processor, card network, issuing bank, and acquiring bank.

- 62. The key players in credit card processing are:
- **Customer** the person making a purchase.
- **Merchant** the person or organization selling a product or service to the customer making a purchase.
- Payment gateway this refers to the technology that connects a merchant to a payment processor. This process involves integrating with card-present (i.e., in-store purchases) and card-not-present (i.e., online purchases) payment environments, obtaining the payment information of customers' transactions, sending these details to a payment processor or merchant bank, and then sending an "approved" or "declined" message to the merchant.
- Credit card processor (or payment processor) this is the organization that helps the merchant, credit card network, and the cardholder's bank communicate. Credit card processors and merchants must comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS).
- Card network (also called credit card network or credit card brand) this is the customers' credit card brand, such as Discover, Mastercard, or Visa. These networks must set assessment and interchange fees.
- Issuing bank (also known as the cardholder's bank or consumer bank) this refers to the bank providing customers with their credit card. The issuing bank will determine whether the cardholder's account has the funds to fulfill a transaction. If the account meets these requirements, the issuing bank will release those funds for settlement.
- Acquiring bank (or merchant bank) this is the merchant's bank, which is used for storing its business funds and receiving money from transactions. This type of bank can provide card readers and equipment to merchants, allowing merchants to accept card payments. Acquiring banks can also serve as credit card processors.
- 63. In April 2018, FSS had accounts on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Periscope, Pinterest, Instagram. *Michael Zimmerman Deposition*<sup>4</sup>, P35. FSS also had the ability to access banks and credit card processors without any problems prior to April 2018.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Videotaped Oral Deposition of Michael Zimmerman, November 26, 2019, Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones (Texas).

- 64. After the commencement of the Sandy Hook Litigation by the Texas and Connecticut Plaintiffs, FSS and Infowars.com were de-platformed from many important internet, social media, and other financial transaction accounts.
- 65. Customers utilize credit or debit cards to purchase merchandise on the Infowarsstore.com website. FSS had to locate a credit card processor and a bank that would do business with it, after FSS was shunned by financial institutions and deplatformed on media sites starting in 2018.
- 66. FSS entered into an agreement with a company as of October 1, 2021, to provide credit card processing for FSS. A third-party processor receives payments from the credit card companies. The company receives credit card receipt proceeds and based on information provided by FSS and PQPR, including which entity owns the inventory that was sold, allocates funds between FSS and PQPR and transfers the amounts allocated to FSS and PQPR's respective banks. This process occurs every federally recognized business day.
- 67. FSS pays the company a fee of 4% of the total amount of all credit card charges processed under the agreement and reimbursement of all costs incurred, including all credit card processing charges incurred in processing FSS' credit card charges.
- 68. In addition to the fee, the agreement provided that the company withhold from FSS' net receipts \$11,000.00 per business day and remit that amount to PQPR to pay principal and interest on the promissory notes executed by FSS in favor of PQPR.
- 69. In a forbearance agreement entered into prior to the Petition Date, the parties agreed to reduce the amount being withheld from FSS' net receipts to \$2,500.00 per business day for the thirty days following July 12, 2022, when the payment increases to \$5,500.00 per business day for an additional thirty days, at which time the payment increases to \$11,000.00 per day.

70. The forbearance agreement also provides that FSS will receive 20% of the proceeds of all sales of products purchased by PQPR (with PQPR receiving 80%) of such proceeds. In turn, PQPR will receive 10% of the proceeds of all sales of products purchased by FSS (with FSS receiving 90%). This split was to reimburse the respective parties for setting up supply chains, obtaining required governmental certifications, negotiating with vendors, procuring and paying for product, and overhead.

### G. Sandy Hook and Litigation Resulting Therefrom

- 71. The Debtors' financial distress stems from statements made by Alex Jones and other employees of FSS in the wake of the December 14, 2012, mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in which 20 children and 6 educators were killed by Adam Lanza. Certain parents of the deceased victims of the Sandy Hook shooting assert, among other things, that these statements were defamatory and inflicted emotional distress.
- 72. The crux of the allegations in these lawsuits are that Alex Jones and FSS employees said or implied that the Sandy Hook massacre did not happen and that the parents were participants in a conspiracy against the public.
- 73. In 2018, certain aggrieved parties (the "Texas Plaintiffs") commenced state-court actions against one or more of the Debtors styled as: (a) Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, and Owen Shroyer, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001835, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas; (b) Scarlett Lewis v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-006623, in the 53rd District Court for Travis County, Texas; (c) Leonard Pozner and Veronique De La Rosa v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001842, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas; (d) Marcel Fontaine v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC,

and Kit Daniels, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001605 in the 459th District Court for Travis County, Texas; and (e) Neil Heslin, Scarlett Lewis, Leonard Pozner, Veronique De La Rosa, Marcel Fontaine v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, PQPR Holdings Limited LLC, JLJR Holdings, LLC, PLJR Holdings, LLC, Carol Jones, David Jones, PQPR Holdings, LLC, JLJR Holdings Limited, LLC, AEJ Holdings, LLC, AEJ Trust 2018, Cause No. D-1-GN-22-001610, in the 200th District Court for Travis County (collectively, as may have been consolidated, the "Texas State Court Litigation").

- 74. These two actions: (a) Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, and Owen Shroyer, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001835, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas; (b) Scarlett Lewis v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-006623, in the 53rd District Court for Travis County, Texas (the "Heslin/Lewis Suit") have been consolidated. Judge Maya Gamble is presently conducting a trial of the Heslin/Lewis Suit.
- 75. As a result of the filing of FSS' bankruptcy, the Texas State Court Litigation has been stayed by the automatic stay provision of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 76. In 2018, certain other parties (the "Connecticut Plaintiffs") brought actions in Connecticut styled:
  - Erica Lafferty, David Wheeler, Francine Wheeler, Jacqueline Barden, Mark Barden, Nicole Hockley, Ian Hockley, Jennifer Hensel, Jeremy Richman, Donna Soto, Carlee Soto-Parisi, Carlos Soto, Jillian Soto, and William Aldenberg v. Alex Emric Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Infowars Health, LLC, Prison Planet TV, LLC, Wolfgang Halbig, Corey T. Sklanka, Genesis Communications Network, Inc., and Midas Resources, Inc., Cause No. X06-UWY-CV-18-6046436-S in the Superior Court of Connecticut, Waterbury Division;
  - William Sherlach and Robert Parker v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Infowars Health, LLC, and Prison Planet TV, Wolfgang Halbig, Cory T. Sklanka, Genesis Communications Network, Inc., and Midas Resources, Inc., Cause No. X06-UWY-CV-18-6046437-S in the Superior Court of Connecticut, Waterbury Division;

- William Sherlach and Robert Parker v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, Infowars Health, LLC, and Prison Planet TV, Wolfgang Halbig, Cory T. Sklanka, Genesis Communications Network, Inc., and Midas Resources, Inc., Cause No. X06-UWY-CV-18-6046438-S in the Superior Court of Connecticut, Waterbury Division (collectively, the "Connecticut State Court Litigation" together with the Texas State Court Litigation are hereinafter referred to as the "Sandy Hook Lawsuits").
- 77. As a result of the filing of FSS' bankruptcy, the Connecticut State Court Litigation has been stayed by the automatic stay provision of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 78. Jones, FSS, and the Debtors have spent more than \$15.0 million in legal fees and costs since commencement of the Sandy Hook Lawsuits.
- 79. Despite the substantial amount spent, both the Texas and Connecticut courts have imposed multiple sanctions and ruled that Jones and FSS have failed to comply with discovery requirements such that judgment on liability has been entered against them by default.
- 80. InfoW, LLC f/k/a Infowars, LLC ("<u>InfoW</u>" and together with its affiliate debtors IWHealth, LLC and Prison Planet tv, Ltd., the "<u>InfoWDebtors</u>"), filed a voluntary petition for chapter 11 bankruptcy relief in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, Victoria Division (the "<u>Bankruptcy Court</u>"), on April 18, 2022 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), initiating Case No. 22-60020 in that court (the "<u>Bankruptcy Case</u>").
- 81. The purpose of the Bankruptcy Case was to provide a mechanism to efficiently determine and pay *all* claims against the InfoWDebtors and joint tortfeasors in full. To support this, the equity of the InfoWDebtors was assigned to the Liquidation Settlement Trust (for the benefit of the Plaintiffs<sup>5</sup> and others) prior to the Petition Date, and the InfoWDebtors, with separate counsel and financial advisors, negotiated the Plan Support Agreement

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- 82. Among other things, the Plan Support Agreement obligated Jones and FSS (together with Jones, the "Third-Party Funding Contributors") to fund \$10.0 million to pay litigation claimants. The total consideration would have been more than \$500,000 per litigation claimant. Additional consideration may have been negotiated over the course of the InfoWDebtors' Bankruptcy Case
- 83. Prior to the Petition Date of the InfoWDebtors' bankruptcy cases, the InfoWDebtors' and the Third-Party Funding Contributors incurred and paid more than \$15.0 million in legal costs. The savings from liquidating the claims in a central forum were essential to the administration of the InfoWDebtors' bankruptcy estates and ultimately paying creditors in full. Absent centralized administration—which may include determination by a jury—the funds available would have been cannibalized in successive trials over a five-month period.
- 84. Rather than negotiate with the InfoWDebtors and the Third-Party Funding Contributors, the Plaintiffs first sought to dismiss the InfoWDebtors' Bankruptcy Case, and, then abruptly, even though Plaintiffs had sued InfoW four years ago, dismissed with prejudice InfoW and, where relevant, the other two debtors within 2 months of the Petition Date.
- 85. The primary goal of InfoWDebtors in the Bankruptcy Case was to engage the Plaintiffs in a global settlement. While unable to achieve that goal, the Bankruptcy Case resulted in the dismissal with prejudice of all claims against InfoW, IW Health and Prison Planet from any and all claims held by the Plaintiffs.

### H. Current Financial Condition of Debtor

86. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"** is a comparative Profit and Loss Statement for FSS for the period January 1, 2022, through May 31, 2022 and the year ended December 31, 2021.

- 87. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "B"** is a comparative Balance Sheet of FSS as of May 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021.
- 88. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "C"** is a comparative Cash Flow Statement for FSS for the period January 1, 2022, through May 31, 2022 and the year ended December 31, 2021.

### I. Critical Motions to Commence the Chapter 11 Case

### **First Day Motions**

- 89. Contemporaneously herewith, the Debtor has filed a number of First Day Motions seeking orders granting various forms of relief intended to stabilize the Debtor's business operations and facilitate the efficient administration of the Chapter 11 Case. The First Day Motions include the following:
  - Schedules and Statements Extension Motion. Debtor's Motion Seeking Entry of an Order (I) Extending Time to File Schedules of Assets and Liabilities, Schedules of Current Income and Expenditures, Schedules of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, and Statements of Financial Affairs, and (II) Granting Related Relief.
  - Cash Collateral Motion. Debtor's Emergency Motion For An Interim And Final Order (I) Authorizing The Use Of Cash Collateral Pursuant To Sections 105, 361, and 363 of The Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule Of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(B), And (II) Granting Adequate Protection To The Pre-Petition Secured Lender.

- Critical Vendors Motion. Debtor's Motion for an Order (A) Authorizing The
  Debtor To Pay Prepetition Obligations Of Certain Critical Vendors, And (B)
  Granting Related Relief.
- Utilities Motion. Debtor's Emergency Motion For Entry Of An Order: (I)

  Approving Debtor's Proposed Form Of Adequate Assurance Of Payment For

  Future Utility Services; (II) Approving Adequate Assurance Procedures;

  Prohibiting Utility Providers From Altering, Refusing Or Discontinuing Service;

  And (Iv) Granting Related Relief.
- Relief from Stay Motion. Debtor's Emergency Motion For An Order Modifying
   The Automatic Stay To Allow The Heslin/Lewis State Court Suit To Continue To
   Judgement.
- 90. The First Day Motions seek authority to, among other things, obtain authority to use cash collateral of PQPR to operate the business of FSS in the ordinary course, including maintaining the studios for Jones to produce his shows, purchase critically needed Supplements and operate the sale business of merchandise sales from the InfowarsStore.com website, pay claims of certain vendors and suppliers to ensure that the Debtor's business operations are not disrupted by the Chapter 11 Case, provide payments and protection to various utilities to assure that they provide essential services to the Debtor, and grant the Texas Plaintiffs relief from the automatic stay provision of 11 U.S.C § 362(a) so as to permit the Heslin\Lewis Suit to continue to judgment uninterrupted by the automatic stay.
- 91. The Debtor has tailored its requests for immediate relief to those circumstances where the failure to receive such relief would cause immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor and its estate. An immediate and orderly transition into chapter 11 is critical to the viability of the Debtor's operations and any delay in grating the relief described in the First Day Motions

could hinder the Debtor's operations and cause irreparable harm. The failure to receive the requested relief during the first twenty-one (21) days of the Chapter 11 Case would severely disrupt the Debtor's operations at this important juncture.

92. I am familiar with the content and substance contained in each First Day Motion and believe that the relief sought in each motion (a) is necessary to enable the Debtor to operate in chapter 11 with minimal disruption or loss of productivity and value, (b) constitutes a critical element of the Debtor's successful reorganization, and (c) best serves the Debtor's estate. I have reviewed each of the First Day Motions. If asked to testify as to the facts supporting each of the First Day Motions, I would testify to the facts as set forth in such motions, as further described below.

### **Procedural Motion**

- 93. Schedules and Statements Extension Motion. The Debtor seeks entry of an order (a) extending the deadline by which the Debtor must file its schedule of assets and liabilities, schedules of current income and expenditures, schedule of executory contracts and unexpired leases and statement of financial affairs by an additional 14 days for a total of 29 days from the Petition Date, without prejudice to the Debtor's ability to request additional extensions.
- 94. Schwartz, Shulse and SALLC have literally been drinking from a firehose since their retention. While they have accomplished much, the company continues to face issues on a daily basis that requires emergency, urgent and immediate attention from this group. Furthermore, locating accurate financial records is a tedious task at FSS, as the record keeping for orders, invoices, expense reports, American Express charge reports are not well-organized. All other records on the computer system also require additional time to retrieve.
- 95. Given the complexity of the Debtor's business and financial affairs, and the critical matters that the Debtor's management and professionals were required to address prior

to Petition Date, the Debtor was not able to complete the Schedules and Statements as of the Petition Date.

96. I believe that the relief requested in the Schedules and Statements Extension Moton is in the best interest of the Debtor's estate, its creditors, and all other parties in interest and will facilitate the Debtor's ability to operate its business in chapter 11 without disruption.

### **Operational Motions**

- 97. Cash Collateral Motion<sup>6</sup>. The Debtor must have access to and use of cash collateral to operate its business. Prior to the Petition Date, FSS and PQPR engaged in extensive and difficult negotiations over the use of cash collateral. The negotiations were complicated by PQPR's significant and important commercial role with FSS. PQPR acts as a lender, provides Supplements and handles essential accounting and revenue division functions for FSS' business.
- 98. The Debtor requires the use of cash collateral to purchase Supplements and Non-Supplements to sell on its Infowarsstore.com website, pay reasonable and necessary operating expenses, including, but not limited to, employee payroll, rent, utilities, lease payments, marketing, taxes, and insurance. Without use of cash collateral, FSS could not operate its business, pay its employees and operate the studios where Alex Jones produces his shows.
- 99. Working with Alex Jones, PQPR, FSS employees, Shulse and SALLC, I have developed a 13-Week Cash Flow Forecast showing the Sources and Uses of Cash for FSS commencing as of July 30, 2022. A true and correct copy of the 13-Week Cash Flow Forecast is attached hereto as **Exhibit "D"**. Based on the assumptions made in the forecast, I project that FSS will operate with a positive ending cash balance at the conclusion of the 13-week period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Debtor is in possession of certain funds which are not proceeds of PQPR's collateral. Accordingly, the Debtor does not concede that those funds constitute cash collateral of PQPR. Nevertheless, net proceeds received by the Debtor from online merchandise sales including PQPR products are PQPR's cash collateral.

- 100. The use of cash collateral required in the next fourteen (14) days from the Petition Date is also set forth on the budgets attached hereto as **Exhibit D**. The Debtor's proposed emergency use of cash collateral is necessary to preserve the value of the Debtor's estate for the benefit of all creditors, including the PQPR, during the first fourteen (14) days of the Chapter 11 Case (the "Interim Period").
- 101. The Debtor's proposed offer of adequate protection on an interim basis is set forth in the proposed Interim Cash Collateral Order. It includes replacement liens solely to the extent of any validly perfected, unavoidable security interest as of the Petition Date, and a priority administrative claim to the extent of the diminution of value of PQPR's collateral, if any. As described further in the proposed Interim Cash Collateral Order, the proposed replacement liens and priority administrative claim shall be subject to a carve-out for unpaid fees owed to the clerk of this Court or the United States Trustee, if any, and court-approved administrative expense claims of estate professionals.
- 102. PQPR and FSS have engaged in extensive negotiations over a protracted duration to arrive at the interim agreement, which the parties will further negotiate into a final agreement. Due to FSS's affiliation with Alex Jones, the CRO made a decision that time was best spent negotiating the most favorable use of cash collateral agreement with PQPR rather than seeking any alternative third-party lender or source of capital to operate FSS.
- 103. Without access to the use of cash collateral of PQPR, FSS could not retain the employees to produce The Alex Jones Show, purchase critically needed inventory to sell on the Infowarsstore.com website and to operate its fulfillment business once a customer makes a purchase.
- 104. **Critical Vendors Motion.** The Debtor seeks entry of interim and final orders authorizing, but not directing, the Debtor to pay, in the ordinary course of business, prepetition

amounts owing on account of claims of critical vendors identified on Schedule "1" to the Critical Vendors Motion (collectively, the "<u>Critical Vendors</u>") in an amount not to exceed \$359,544.62. In addition, the Debtor requests that the Court schedule a final hearing in approximately twenty-one (21) days after the entry of an interim order, or as soon thereafter as is convenient for the Court, to consider approval of the Critical Vendors Motion on a final basis.

- 105. After an extensive review and analysis of the Debtor's vendors, the Debtor and its professionals identified the vendors that supply products and services vital to the Debtor's continued operation. The Debtor relies on products and services from its Critical Vendors to operate its business, and, depend on the timely provision of specialized services to provide top-quality content and services to its customer base.
- 106. The Critical Vendors procure and provide key services to producing and transmitting The Alex Jones Show. The Critical Vendors are instrumental in the timely fulfillment of Supplement or Non-Supplements to the customer base. If they fail to provide their mission-critical goods and services, the business of FSS would grind to a halt.
- 107. I understand that the Debtor's trade relationship with its Critical Vendors is not governed by long-term contracts, and the Debtor believes those trade relationships will deteriorate, causing disruption to the Debtor's operations if the Debtor is unable to pay Critical Vendors. Accordingly, payment of the Critical Vendors is essential to avoid costly interruption and disturbances to the Debtor's business during the Chapter 11 Case.
- 108. Subject to Court's approval, I understand the Debtor intends to pay Critical Vendors only to the extent necessary to preserve its business. The Debtor's CRO will review, assess, and make payment on account of these claims. In return for paying these claims, the Debtor will use commercially reasonable efforts to condition payment of Critical Vendors upon each claimant's agreement to continue supplying goods and services to the Debtor in accordance

with trade terms (including credit limits, discounts, pricing, timing of payments, availability, and other terms) consistent with the parties' ordinary course practice or as otherwise agreed by the Debtor in its reasonable business judgement.

- 109. I believe that the relief requested in the Critical Vendors Motion is in the best interest of the Debtor's estate, its creditors and all other parties in interest and will facilitate the Debtor's ability to operate its business in chapter 11 without disruption.
- 110. **Utilities Motion**. The Debtors seeks entry of an order (a) approving the Debtor's proposed adequate assurance of payment for future utility services under section 366 of the Bankruptcy Code, (b) prohibiting the utility providers from altering, refusing, or discontinuing services, (c) approving the Debtor's propose adequate assurance procedures, and, (d) granting related relief.
- 111. In connection with the operation of its business, the Debtor obtains electricity, telecommunications and other similar services from a number of utility providers or brokers. Uninterrupted utility services are essential to the Debtor's ongoing business operations and the overall success of the Chapter 11 Case. The utility services are essential for the Debtor to maintain its business and to operate its corporate offices and essential for daily operations. The studios and warehouse in Austin, Texas require electricity, telecommunications, internet, and other utility services to operate. Should any utility provider refuse or discontinue service, even for a brief period, the Debtor's business operations would be needlessly disrupted.
- 112. To the best of Debtor's knowledge, there are no defaults or arrearages with respect to the undisputed invoices for prepetition utility services.

### **Proposed Adequate Assurance**

113. The Debtor intends to pay post-petition obligations owed to the Utility Providers in a timely manner. Cash held by the Debtor and cash generated in the ordinary course of

business will provide sufficient liquidity to pay the Debtor's Utility Service obligations in accordance with its prepetition practice.

114. The Debtor submits that the Debtor's ability to pay for future utility services with cash on hand in accordance with its prepetition practices (the "<u>Proposed Adequate Assurance</u>") constitutes sufficient adequate assurance to the Utility Providers in full satisfaction of Bankruptcy Code section 366.

### Adequate Assurance Procedures

- 115. Any Utility Provider that is not satisfied with the Proposed Adequate Assurance may make a request for additional or different adequate assurance of future payment (each an "Additional Assurance Request") pursuant to the adequate assurance procedures set forth in the proposed Order (the "Adequate Assurance Procedures").
  - 116. The proposed Adequate Assurance Procedures are as follows:

Any Utility Provider desiring additional assurances of payment in the form of deposits, prepayments or otherwise must serve an Additional Assurance Request on the Notice Parties (as defined in the Order). An Additional Assurance Request may be made at any time.

Any Additional Assurance Request must: (i) be in writing; (ii) identify the location for which the Utility Services are provided; (iii) summarize the Debtor's payment history relevant to the affected account(s), including any security deposits; and (iv) explain why the Utility Provider believes the Proposed Adequate Assurance is not sufficient adequate assurance of future payment.

Upon the Debtor's receipt of any Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor shall promptly negotiate with such Utility Provider to resolve such Utility Provider's Additional Assurance Request.

The Debtor may, without further order from the Court, resolve any Additional Assurance Request by mutual agreement with a Utility Provider, and the Debtor may, in connection with any such agreement, provide such Utility Provider with additional adequate assurance of payment, including, but not limited to, cash deposits, prepayments or other forms of security if the Debtor believes that such adequate assurance is reasonable in its business judgment, subject to the terms of any cash collateral or other financing order entered by the Court; provided, however, that the Debtor shall maintain a summary

record of such agreements and their respective terms, and such summary record and the agreements themselves shall be available to any official committee appointed in this chapter 11 case and the U.S. Trustee upon request.

If the Debtor and the Utility Provider are not able to reach an alternative resolution within 14 days of receipt of the Additional Assurance Request, the Debtor will request a hearing before the Court to determine the adequacy of assurances of payment with respect to a particular Utility Provider (the "Determination Hearing"), pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 366(c)(3). Pending resolution of any such Determination Hearing, the Utility Provider filing such Additional Assurance Request shall be prohibited from altering, refusing, or discontinuing Utility Services to the Debtor on account of unpaid charges for prepetition services or on account of any objections to the Proposed Adequate Assurance.

In addition, if an amount relating to Utility Services provided post-petition by a Utility Provider is unpaid, and remains unpaid beyond any applicable grace period, such Utility Provider may request additional adequate assurance pursuant to the Adequate Assurance Procedures.

The Adequate Assurance Procedures sets forth a streamlined process for Utility Providers to address potential concerns with respect to the Proposed Adequate Assurance, while at the same time allowing the Debtor to continue its business operations uninterrupted. More specifically, the Adequate Assurance Procedures permits a Utility Provider to object to the Proposed Adequate Assurance by filing and serving an Additional Assurance Request upon certain notice parties. The Debtor, in its discretion, may then resolve any Additional Assurance Request by mutual agreement with the Utility Provider and without further order of the Court. If the Additional Assurance Request cannot be resolved by mutual agreement, the Debtor may seek Court resolution of the Additional Assurance Request. Unless and until a Utility Provider files an objection or serves an Additional Assurance Request, such Utility Provider shall be: (i) deemed to have received adequate assurance of payment "satisfactory" to such Utility Provider in compliance with Bankruptcy Code section 366; and (ii) forbidden to discontinue, alter or refuse services to, or discriminate against, the Debtor on account of any unpaid prepetition

charges, or require additional assurance of payment other than the Proposed Adequate Assurance.

- 117. I believe that the relief requested in the Utilities Motion is in the best interest of the Debtor's estate, its creditors, and all other parties in interest and will facilitate the Debtor's ability to operate its businesses in chapter 11 without disruption.
- 118. **Heslin/Lewis Relief from Stay Motion.** Plaintiffs in Texas and Connecticut have commenced suits against Alex Jones and FSS relating to certain statement made by Jones regarding the Sandy Hook shooting. Two of the Texas State Court Suits—*Neil Heslin v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC, and Owen Shroyer*, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-001835, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas and *Scarlett Lewis v. Alex E. Jones, Infowars, LLC, Free Speech Systems, LLC*, Cause No. D-1-GN-18-006623, in the 53rd District Court for Travis County, Texas—have been consolidated as the Heslin/Lewis Suit. Judge Maya Guerra Gamble, 459<sup>th</sup> Civil District Court, Travis County (the "<u>Texas State Court</u>") is presiding over the Heslin/Lewis Suit.
- 119. The trial of the Heslin/Lewis Suit was ongoing as of the Petition Date. On July 25, 2022, the Texas State Court held *voir dire* of jurors and a jury was empaneled. The Texas State Court began taking evidence in the Heslin/Lewis Suit on July 26, 2022. As the result of the filing of the Debtor's petition for chapter 11 relief, the Heslin/Lewis Suit is stayed by Bankruptcy Code section 362.
- 120. The Debtor believes that it is in the best interests of its estate and creditors for the Heslin/Lewis Suit to continue to judgement notwithstanding the commencement of this Chapter 11 Case. Substantial resources of the Debtor and Plaintiffs Heslin and Lewis have already been expended in the Heslin/Lewis Suit to empanel a jury and present evidence to that jury. Based on representations made by counsel for Heslin and Lewis in the Bankruptcy Case of InfoW, LLC

previously before this Court, the Debtor believes that Heslin and Lewis desire a final judgment from the Texas State Court and would seek relief from the automatic stay absent this request by the Debtor.<sup>7</sup>

121. The Debtor seeks emergency consideration of this Motion on or before 8:30 a.m. on August 1, 2022, or as soon thereafter as the Court's schedule will allow. A jury has been empaneled and trial is underway in the Heslin/Lewis Suit, scheduled to continue at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 1, 2022. Emergency relief is necessary to prevent delay in the Heslin/Lewis Suit to the detriment of the Debtor, Plaintiffs Heslin and Lewis, and the members of the jury serving in the Heslin/Lewis Suit.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 29th day of July, 2022.

W. Marc Schwartz, as Chief Restructuring Officer of Free Speech Systems, LLC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> In the InfoW, LLC chapter 11 case, counsel for the Texas Plaintiffs indicated at the April 22, 2022, hearing that the Texas Plaintiffs would be seeking relief from the automatic stay to continue litigation. According to counsel for the Texas Plaintiffs, the "cases are every bit as much about having a determination final made for them, them having their day in court in which Mr.Jones is held accountable for his conduct. So it's not just about a liquidating claims procedure, it is very emotional." *In re InfoW, LLC*, Case No. 22-60020 (Bankr. S.D. Tex.) [ECF No. 39] at 73:8-12.

### Exhibit "A"

Comparative Profit and Loss Statement for FSS for the period January 1, 2022, through May 31, 2022 and the year ended December 31, 202.

### Free Speech Systems LLC **Comparative Profit and Loss Statement** For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 and the Five Months Ended May 31, 2021

Income Product Sales Advertising Income Donations Fulfillment Services	\$ 52,661,022.49 5,761,997.51	\$ 10,969,769.29
Advertising Income Donations	\$	\$ 10,969,769.29
Donations	5,761,997.51	
		-
Fulfillment Services	710,154.12	2,876,213.86
I dillillillorit Oct vioco	3,533,223.00	-
Administrative Services	1,903,898.95	-
Media Production Sales	-	475,000.00
Infowars Health	38,123.60	-
Prison Planet	4,877.62	-
Uncategorized Income	357,344.56	-
Total Income	64,970,641.85	14,320,983.15
Cost of Goods Sold	51,878,333.73	4,936,453.79
Gross Profit	\$ 13,092,308.12	\$ 9,384,529.36
Expenses		
Advertising & Promotion	364,387.73	107,994.01
Computer/IT/IP Expense	5,036,717.02	1,307,339.15
Insurance Expense	54,558.40	31,898.90
Office & Administrative Expense	277,863.76	26,373.93
Contract Services	1,591,039.49	359,592.69
Professional Fees	4,126,906.48	1,623,771.42
Occupancy	1,624,864.40	345,602.34
Utilities	115,461.34	127,855.13
Taxes Paid	50,281.71	4,409.71
Telephone Expense	304,776.62	85,341.24
Personnel & Payroll Expenses	6,879,811.39	2,157,298.60
Travel	975,711.28	64,900.23
Equipment Purchase	123,696.05	-
Production	393,712.54	-
Radio Show	145,177.77	-
Royalties	1,197,472.71	-
Equipment Rental	27,322.86	-
Meals and Entertainment	97,486.31	_
Uncategorized Expense	, -	103,815.00
Total Expenses	23,387,247.86	6,346,192.35
Net Operating Income	\$ (10,294,939.74)	\$ 3,038,337.01
Other Income	507,168.04	1,019,713.81
Other Expenses	18,963.30	206.15
Interest Expense	857,498.17	397,669.19
Donation	10,000.00	-
Amortization Expense	35,361.28	5,937.50
Depreciation Expense	209,888.00	98,750.20
AMEX Charges	-	1,653,383.31
Total Other Expenses	1,131,710.75	2,155,946.35
Net Other Income	(624,542.71)	(1,136,232.54)
Net Income	\$ (10,919,482.45)	\$ 1,902,104.47

### Exhibit "B"

Comparative Balance Sheet of FSS as of May 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021.

### Free Speech Systems LLC Comparative Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2021 and May 31, 2022

	2021	2022
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 1,508,720.21	\$ 1,159,247.90
Accounts Receivable	10,187,121.95	10,013,413.22
Other Current Assets		
Invenotry	1,732,603.13	910,116.84
Prepaid Expenses	446,475.64	114,136.99
Due from PQPR	(500.00)	-
Advance To Elevated Solutions	27,870.00	-
Total Other Current Assets	2,206,448.77	1,024,253.83
Total Current Assets	13,902,290.93	12,196,914.95
Fixed Assets	1,679,438.66	1,580,779.46
Other Assets		
Intangible Assets	21,270.83	15,333.33
Security Deposits	534,560.00	534,560.00
Total Other Assets	555,830.83	549,893.33
Total Assets	\$ 16,137,560.42	\$ 14,327,587.74
Liabilities and Equity		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 4,732,966.89	\$ 1,217,685.58
Credit Cards	152,367.42	207,984.04
Other Current Liabilities		
David Jones Advance	150,000.00	150,000.00
Advances from PQPR	-	571,920.57
Due to PQPR	23,058,367.00	23,058,367.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	23,208,367.00	23,780,287.57
Total Current Liabilities	28,093,701.31	25,205,957.19
Long Term Liabilities		
Note Due to PQPR	54,580,405.22	53,845,074.41
Note Payable - Winnebago	93,505.62	82,524.37
Total Long Term Liabilities	54,673,910.84	53,927,598.78
Total Liabilities	\$ 82,767,612.15	\$ 79,133,555.97
Equity		
Member's Equity	(774,291.44)	-
Member Draws	(61,937,862.26)	(254,014.00)
Member Contributions	4,305,810.14	311,350.00
Opening Balance Equity	-	(66,765,408.70)
Retained Earnings	2,695,774.28	-
Net Income	(10,919,482.45)	1,902,104.47
Total Equity	\$ (66,630,051.73)	\$ (64,805,968.23)
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 16,137,560.42	\$ 14,327,587.74

### Exhibit "C"

Comparative Cash Flow Statement for FSS for the period January 1, 2022, through May 31, 2022 and the year ended December 31, 2021.

# Free Speech Systems, LLC Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended December 31, 2021 and the Five Months Ended May 31, 2022

	2021	2022
Operating Activities		
Net Income	(\$10,919,482.45)	\$1,902,104.47
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by		
operations:	-	-
11000 Accounts Receivable	(10,187,121.95)	173,708.73
12000 Inventory	(94,344.61)	822,486.29
13000 Prepaid Expenses:13010 Prepaid Insurance	-	-
13000 Prepaid Expenses:13020 Prepaid Software Licenses	-	-
Pre-paid Vendor Deposits	-	-
13000 Prepaid Expenses:13040 Prepaid Legal	-	-
13000 Prepaid Expenses:13070 Other Prepaid Expenses	-	-
Advance To Elevated Solutions	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	(403,821.24)	65,286.20
Accumulated Depreciation	209,887.99	98,750.20
Accumulated Amortization	35,361.29	2,708.35
20000 Accounts Payable	3,005,707.55	(3,410,484.85)
22000 Credit Card Payable	(236,394.79)	207,984.04
Advances from PQPR	-	571,920.57
David Jones Advance	150,000.00	-
Due to PQPR	(2,229,789.04)	-
Interest Payable - PQPR	(200,022.99)	-
Net cash provided by operating activities	(\$20,870,020.24)	\$434,464.00
Investing Activities	-	-
15000 Property and Equipment	(522,121.65)	(91.00)
17100 Security Deposits	(500,000.00)	-
17300 Intangible Assets	(5,500.00)	3,229.15
Net cash provided by investing activities	(\$1,027,621.65)	\$3,138.15
Financing Activities		
27000 Note Due to PQPR:2021/11/10 \$25,300,000 Note	24,992,405.22	(735,330.81)
Note Payable - Winnebago	(18,832.81)	(10,981.25)
31000 Opening Balance Equity	-	-
Member's Equity	(23,193.36)	(98,098.40)
33000 Distributions to Member:33100 Member Draws	-	-
33000 Distributions to Member:Owner investments	-	-
Net Member Distributions	(2,100,362.40)	57,336.00
Net cash provided by financing activities	22,850,016.65	(787,074.46)
Net cash increase for period	\$952,374.76	(\$349,472.31)

Exhibit "D"

13-Week Cash Flow Forecast for FSS

001519

Proposition							Free Speech Systems LLC	stems LLC							
Part					_	orecaster Betwee	13 Week	Cash Flow	Budget 22						
Particle	Period Week Number	07/30/2022- 08/05/2022 1	08/06/2022- 08/12/2022 2	08/13/2022- 08/19/2022 3	08/20/2022- 08/26/2022 4	08/27/2022- 09/02/2022 5	09/03/2022- 09/09/2022 6		09/17/2022- 09/23/2022 8	09/24/2022- 09/30/2022 9		10/08/2022- 10/14/2022 11		10/22/2022- 10/28/2022 13	Total
Septiminal problems	ncome roduct Sales dvertising				<>→	<>→	↔				₩.		\$ 595,489.01 480,166.46 3 141 25	595,489.01	\$ 7,741,357.16 1,440,499.38 \$ 40,836.21
Page 1985   Page	otal Income	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26		598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26	598,630.26	598,630.26	1,078,796.72	598,630.26	9,222,692.75
Account (rese, colimation)         (26,727,02)         (26,727	wentory Purchase	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)			_					(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(76,155.17)	(990,017.27)
Color States         Color States<	epay PQPR Inventory		(250,000.00)		<u></u>	_					1	1		,	(750,000.00)
Column   C	erchant Account Fees	(26,797.01)	_		_	_	_		(26,797.01)	_		(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(26,797.01)	(348,361.07)
Columnication   Columnicatio	ripping cost for arop sinp orders uffillment Services	(95.278.24)	_	_	_	-	_		(7,911.61)	_	2	(45.278.24)	(7,911.61)	(95.278.24)	(1.238.617.15)
Carbon Maintenance   Carbon	ocessor Fees	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	_			_	_	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(23,819.56)	(309,654.29)
	Commerce Store Maintenance	(27,270.00)				(27,270.00)				(27,270.00)					(81,810.00)
	sas sales lax	(75,337.87)	(00 190 027)		Ľ					(5,337.87)	- 130 000	- (00 000)	(00 150 000)	(00 130 000)	(16,013.61)
1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	perating Expenses	(205,303.07)	(4/3,901.00)		2				(223,361.60)	(202,303.07)	(223,361.60)	(223,361.60)	(00.106,622)	(00.106,622)	(16.926,160,6)
1,000,000   1,00	Ivertising & Promotion														
1,000.00   1,000.00	Ivertising & Promotion	(3,041.98)	•	•		(3,041.98		,	•	(3,041.98)			,		(9,125.93)
11,500.00   11,5	int Media	(3,000.00)				(3,000.00)	-			(3,000.00)					(9,000.00)
	dio Show Advertising	(11,500.00)				(11,500.00	-			(11,500.00)					(34,500.00)
CANONING	tal Advertising & Promotion monter/IT/IP Expense	(17,541.98)	•	•	•	(17,541.98	'		•	(17,541.98)	•	•	•	•	(52,625.93)
1,44,500   1,44,500	ernet & TV services	(2,082.90)	,	(1,608.39)	1	(2,082.90)	,	(1,608.39)	٠	(2,082.90)	٠	٠	(1,608.39)	,	(11,073.89)
Carbon   C	ftware License Fees	(140.80)	•	,	,	(140.80)	,	-	,	(140.80)	,	,	,	,	(422.40)
Conditionage   Cond	ver Hosting Service	(28,595.13)	•	•	•	(28,595.13	-			(28,595.13)					(85,785.40)
137,2233   1,200,203   1,200	N Video Cloud Storage	(55,728.00)			•	(55,728.00	-			(55,728.00)					(167,184.00)
Symbols         Symbols <t< td=""><td>ellite Service</td><td>(137,282.93)</td><td>•</td><td></td><td></td><td>(137,282.93</td><td>-</td><td></td><td>•</td><td>(137,282.93)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>(411,848.78)</td></t<>	ellite Service	(137,282.93)	•			(137,282.93	-		•	(137,282.93)					(411,848.78)
C286.014   C28.014.01   C28.0	aging License ree tware & Anns	(5,000,00)				(5,000,000)	' '			(5,000,00)					(27,803.73)
C28603.01         (23603.01)         (1,724.89)         (45.90)	bisite Hosting	(22)	•	(266.50)		-	,	(266.50)	•	(2000)			(266.50)	,	(799.50)
Care Charges   Care	al Computer/IT/IP Expense	(238,031.01)		(1,874.89)		(238,031.01	-	(1,874.89)		(238,031.01)			(1,874.89)		(719,717.72)
Administrative Expense         (45.90)<	urance	(2,166.50)				(2,166.50				(2,166.50)					(6,499.50)
1,000,000   (45,000   (4	ice & Administrative Expense	(00 14)												100 147	1000
Policy Printing/Copy         (2.10)	nk rees & service charges uipment Rental	(45.90)				(1,				1				(45.90)	(5,969.69)
Nales (280.46) (280.4	ice Supplies/Printing/Copy	(2.10)	(2.10)								(2.10)			(2.10)	(27.31)
ce & Administrative Expense         (2.318.36)         (328.46)	siness Meals		(280.46)								(280.46)		(280.46)	(280.46)	(3,645.97)
45,980.00    (45,980.00    (12,000.00)   (22,670.00    (12,000.00)   (12,670.00)   (	tal Office & Administrative Expense		(328.46)	_	_		_	(328.46)	(328.46)	(2,318.36)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(328.46)	(10,239.71)
Fervices (22,670.00) - (12,670	tsourced Services	(45,980.00)		٠		(45,980.00		•		(45,980.00)			•	,	(137,940.00)
(256.19) (5.107.63) (5	nsulting Services	(22,670.00)	•	(12,000.00)		(22,670.00	'	(12,000.00)	•	(22,670.00)	•	•	(12,000.00)		(104,010.00)
(256.19)   (256.19)	lities	,		(5 107 63)	,		,	(5 107 63)		,	,	,	(5 107 63)	,	(15 322 89)
(20,364.16)         (20,364.16)	AC	(256 19)		1	,	(256 19)		(2010)	٠	(256 19)			(20102(2)		(768 58)
Eaver         (1,708.55)         (1,708.53)         (1,708.55)         (1,708.55)         (1,708.55)         (1,708.55)         (1,708.56) </td <td>M Charges</td> <td>(20.364.16)</td> <td>٠</td> <td>٠</td> <td>٠</td> <td>(20,364.16)</td> <td>,</td> <td>٠</td> <td>٠</td> <td>(20,364.16)</td> <td>٠</td> <td>٠</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>(61.092.48)</td>	M Charges	(20.364.16)	٠	٠	٠	(20,364.16)	,	٠	٠	(20,364.16)	٠	٠			(61.092.48)
ce (132.09) (132.09) (132.09) (132.09) (132.09) (244.65) (244.65) (244.65)	ter & Sewer	(1,708.55)	•	٠	٠	(1,708.55,		٠	•	(1,708.55)	٠	٠			(5,125.66)
rol (244.65)	s Service	(132.09)	•	•	•	(132.09)		•	•	(132.09)	•	•	•	,	(396.28)
snagement         (351.81)         (351.81)         (351.81)         (351.81)         (351.81)         (35.107.63	st Control	(244.65)	•	•	•	(244.65	-	•		(244.65)					(733.95)
titles         (23,057.46)         (5,107.63)	aste Management	(351.81)	٠	٠	٠	(351.81	٠		•	(351.81)	٠	٠			(1,055.43)
y (33,408.51) (33,408.51) (31,111.90) (31,111.90) (31,111.90) (31,111.90)	rtal Utilities	(23,057.46)	•	(5,107.63)		(23,057.46	•	(5,107.63)		(23,057.46)			(5,107.63)		(84,495.27)
unity         (31,111.90) <th< td=""><td>cupancy</td><td>(33,408.51)</td><td></td><td>٠</td><td>,</td><td>(33,408.51)</td><td></td><td>,</td><td></td><td>(33,408.51)</td><td>,</td><td>,</td><td>,</td><td>,</td><td>(100,225.53)</td></th<>	cupancy	(33,408.51)		٠	,	(33,408.51)		,		(33,408.51)	,	,	,	,	(100,225.53)
Maintenance - Building (1,777.19) - (1,777.1	fice Security	(31,111.90)	•	•	•	(31,111.90,		•	•	(31,111.90)	•	•	•	,	(93,335.69)
(5,983.33) (5,983.33)	pair & Maintenance - Building	(1,777.19)	•	•		(1,777.19	,	,	•	(1,777.19)			,		(5,331.56)
Upancy (72,280,39) (72,280,39)	nitorial	(5,983.33)				(5,983.33	-			(5,983.33)					(17,950.00)
	tal Occupancy	(72,280.93)		•	•	(72,280.93	•	•	•	(72,280.93)	•	•	•		(216,842.78)

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				Forecasted 13 Week Cash Flow Budget	13 Week Cash F	Cash Flow	/ Budget						_
				Betwee	n July 30, 2022 .	Between July 30, 2022 and October 28, 2022	2022						
Period 07/30/2022- 08/06/2022- 08/05/2022 08/12/2022	08/06/2022-	08/13/2022-	08/20/2022-	08/27/2022-	09/03/2022-	09/10/2022- 09/16/2022	09/17/2022-	09/24/2022-	10/01/2022-	10/08/2022-	10/15/2022-	10/22/2022-	Total
(18,337.88)	- (8	,   		(18,337.88)	_	'	'	(18,337.88)		, ,	,   	· }	(55,013.65)
(168,467.44)	- (1	(168,467.44)	- (t	(168,467.44)	-	(168,467.44)	•	(168,467.44)		(168,467.44)		(168,467.44)	(1,179,272.08)
(13,971.09)	-	(13,971.09)	- (6	(13,971.09)	-	(13,971.09)	-	(13,971.09)		(13,971.09)	-	(13,971.09)	(97,797.65)
(54,166.67)	٠.	(54,166.67)	- (2	(54,166.67)	-	(54,166.67)	-	(54,166.67)		(54,166.67)	-	(54,166.67)	(379,166.67)
(236,605.20)	. (6	(236,605.20)	- 6	(236,605.20)	-	(236,605.20)		(236,605.20)		(236,605.20)		(236,605.20)	(1,656,236.39)
(69.66)	(69.66) (6	(69.66)	(69:66) (6	(69:66)	(69:66)	(69:66)	(69:66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(69.66)	(1,295.98)
•	(1,470.56)	-	•		(1,470.56)	- (3				(1,470.56)	-		(4,411.68)
69'66)	(1,570.25)	(69.66)	(69:66) (6	(69:66) (6	(1,570.25)	(69:66)	(69:66)	(69'66)	(69.66)	(1,570.25)	(69:66)	(69.66)	(5,707.66)
(680,347.03)	(1,898.71)	(256,015.88)	3) (428.15)	5) (680,347.03)	(1,898.71)	(256,015.88)	(428.15)	(680,347.03)	(428.15)	(238,503.91)	(19,410.68)	(237,033.35)	(3,053,102.68)
(12,500.00)		(15,500.00) (27,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(27,500.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(523,000.00)
(172,390.28)	- (8	(172,390.28)	- (8	(172,390.28)	-	(172,390.28)	-	(172,390.28)		(172,390.28)			(1,034,341.69)
(184,890.28)	(15,500.00)	(199,890.28)	3) (27,500.00)	(199,890.28)	(27,500.00)	(227,390.28)	(55,000.00)	(227,390.28)	(55,000.00)	(227,390.28)	(55,000.00)	(55,000.00)	(1,557,341.69)
٠	•	٠		٠	•	(52,992.00)	•	(35,328.00)	٠		٠		(88,320.00)
•	•	•	•		•	(57,876.00)	-	(40,352.00)		•		•	(98,228.00)
•	•	•	•	•	•	(40,000.00)	-	(60,000.00)		•		•	(100,000.00)
•	•	•	•		•	(24,000.00)	-	(24,000.00)					(48,000.00)
•	•	•	•		•	(174,868.00)		(159,680.00)					(334,548.00)
\$ (529.176.72	101.269.75	\$ (529.176.72) \$ 101.269.75 \$ (87.237.70) \$		320,906,77 \$ (544,176,72) \$ 339,269,75 \$ (289,605,70) \$ 793,406,77 \$ (731,356,72) \$ 313,240,31 \$ (97,225,73) \$ 774,424,24	339,269,75	\$ (289,605,70)	1 \$ 793,406,77	\$ (731,356,72)	\$ 313,240,31	\$ (97,225.73)	\$ 774,424,24	\$ 76,635,11	440.373.41

Payroll Tax
Alex Jones Salary
Total Personnel Expenses
Travel
Mileage/Parking/Tolls
Vehicle Leases
Total Operating Expenses
Total Operating Expenses
Total Operating Expenses
Total Operating Expenses
Payment on POPR Note
AMEX Payment
Total Other Expenses
Payment Total Other Expenses
Professional Fees
CRO Fees
Financial Adviosr Fee
Shannon & Lee LLP
Total Porfessional Fees
Total Porfessional Fees

Telephone
Personnel Expenses
Salaries & Wages - Base

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:

\$ Case No. 22-60043

\$ FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,

\$ Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)

\$ Debtor.

# **EXHIBIT 3**

Secretary of State P.O. Box 13697 Austin, TX 78711-3697 FAX: 512/463-5709

Filing Fee: \$300



### Certificate of Formation Limited Liability Company

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of Texas Filing #: 804462512 03/07/2022 Document #: 1126599120004 Image Generated Electronically for Web Filing

### Article 1 - Entity Name and Type

The filing entity being formed is a limited liability company. The name of the entity is:

### Blue Asension Logistics LLC

### Article 2 – Registered Agent and Registered Office

✓A. The initial registered agent is an organization (cannot be company named above) by the name of:

### Northwest Registered Agent, LLC

OR

- $\square$ B. The initial registered agent is an individual resident of the state whose name is set forth below:
- C. The business address of the registered agent and the registered office address is:

### Street Address:

### 5900 Balcones Drive STE 100 Austin TX 78731

### **Consent of Registered Agent**

A. A copy of the consent of registered agent is attached.

OF

☑B. The consent of the registered agent is maintained by the entity.

### **Article 3 - Governing Authority**

A. The limited liability company is to be managed by managers.

OR

☑B. The limited liability company will not have managers. Management of the company is reserved to the members. The names and addresses of the governing persons are set forth below:

Managing Member 1: Patrick Riley Title: Managing Member

Address: 5900 Balcones Drive STE 100 Austin TX, USA 78731

### Article 4 - Purpose

The purpose for which the company is organized is for the transaction of any and all lawful business for which limited liability companies may be organized under the Texas Business Organizations Code.

**Supplemental Provisions / Information** 

[The attached addendum, if any, is incorporated herein by reference.]
Initial Mailing Address
Address to be used by the Comptroller of Public Accounts for purposes of sending tax information.
The initial mailing address of the filing entity is: 5900 Balcones Drive STE 100 Austin, TX 78731 USA
Organizer
The name and address of the organizer are set forth below.  Morgan Noble 5900 Balcones Drive STE 100 Austin, TX US 78731
Effectiveness of Filing
✓A. This document becomes effective when the document is filed by the secretary of state. OR
□B. This document becomes effective at a later date, which is not more than ninety (90) days from the date of its signing. The delayed effective date is:
Execution
The undersigned affirms that the person designated as registered agent has consented to the appointment. The undersigned signs this document subject to the penalties imposed by law for the submission of a materially false or fraudulent instrument and certifies under penalty of perjury that the undersigned is authorized under the provisions of law governing the entity to execute the filing instrument.
Morgan Noble
Signature of Organizer

FILING OFFICE COPY

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:	§	Case No. 22-60043
	§	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	
Debtor.	§	

# **EXHIBIT 4**

### Case 4:23-cv-00463 Document 6-12 Filed on 03/23/23 in TXSD Page 254 of 262

From: A J <aj76@alexjones.net>

Patrick PJR Riley WORK <patrick@infowars.com> To:

Sent: 6/22/2018 11:02:04 PM

Subject: Fwd: Phone Call with Marc Randazza

This guy assists Mark Renazza an attorney Alex is looking at to be general counsel or just to handle some of the Sandy Hook cases brought in Connecticut. Please help get a call scheduled with Rendazza through Tennyson Fauver.

Thanks,

### **David Jones**

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tennyson Fauver** <<u>tif@randazza.com</u>>

Date: Thu, Jun 21, 2018 at 12:55 PM Subject: Phone Call with Marc Randazza

To: aj76@alexjones.net

### Alex,

Marc asked me to set up a time for the two of you to speak. He is available at 1:30pm PST today for a phone call. If that will work for you please let me know, if not, let me know another time and I will make accommodations.

### Thanks,

Tennyson J. Fauver\* | Randazza Legal Group, PLLC 2764 Lake Sahara Drive, Suite 109, Las Vegas, NV 89117

Tel: (702) 420-2001 | Email: tjf@randazza.com

<sup>\*</sup>Legal Assistant - Not licensed to practice law.

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:	§	Case No. 22-60043
	§	
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,	§	Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)
	§	
Debtor.	§	

# **EXHIBIT 5**

From: aj76@alexjones.net

**To:** patrick@infowars.com <patrick@infowars.com>

Sent: 7/5/2016 9:29:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: Boat Dock after the 4th

### Begin forwarded message:

From: Byrne Benfield < bobenfield@gmail.com >

**Date:** July 5, 2016 at 4:08:47 PM CDT

To: Alex Jones <aj76@alexjones.net>, David Jones <drigones@infowars.com>, Sarah Myers

<aj76.accts@gmail.com>

Cc: Martha Benfield <mpbenfield@gmail.com>

Subject: Boat Dock after the 4th

Whoever was left in charge of cleaning up the boat dock for the Joneses didn't do a very good job. We would appreciate it being cleaned up as soon as possible.

Byrne

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:

\$ Case No. 22-60043

\$ FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,

\$ Chapter 11 (Subchapter V)

\$ Debtor.

# EXHIBIT 6



Price List

7/18/22

Average Shipping Cost \$14 per Package Average Fulfillment and Handling \$6 per Package

### **Included Services:**

- -Receiving
- -Storage
- -Unlimited Pick
- -Unlimited Pack
- -Order Inserting
- -Supplies
- -Returns
- -Cycle Counting/Inventory
- -Software & IT Integrations
- -Q.C. & Q.A.
- -Labor
- -Shipping Cost
- \*\* 90 Day Commitment
- \*\*All orders through Infowarsstore.com fulfilled by Blue Asension Logistics LLC
- \*\*Special Projects such as kitting, labeling/relabeling, etc. \$50/man-hour

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:

\$
FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC,

\$
Case No. 22--60043

\$
DEBTOR.

\$
(Subchapter V Debtor)

\$
Chapter 11

## NOTICE OF APPEARANCE AND REQUEST FOR SERVICE AND PAPERS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to section 1109(b) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure ("Bankruptcy Rule") 9010(b), Shannon & Lee LLP ("S&L") hereby enters its appearance in the above-captioned chapter 11 case as proposed Co-Counsel for Free Speech Systems, LLC (the "Debtor"). The undersigned respectfully requests that all notices given or required to be given in this proceeding and all papers served or required to be served in this proceeding, be served upon the following:

R.J. Shannon
rshannon@shannonleellp.com
Shannon & Lee LLP
Pennzoil Place-13<sup>th</sup> Floor
700 Milam
Houston, Texas 77002

- and-

Kyung S. Lee <u>klee@shannonleellp.com</u> Shannon & Lee LLP Pennzoil Place-13<sup>th</sup> Floor 700 Milam Houston, Texas 77002

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Notice of Appearance and Request for Service is not only for the notices and other documents referred to in the Bankruptcy Rules specified above but includes without limitation, all orders, notices, motions, applications, complaints, demand, hearings, petitions, pleadings or requests, whether formal or informal, written or oral, and whether transmitted or conveyed by mail, delivery, telephone, telegraph, telex or otherwise filed with regard to the referenced case and the proceedings.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Debtor does not intend that this Notice of Appearance, or any later appearance or pleading, be deemed or construed to be a waiver of its right: (i) to have final orders in non-core matters entered only after *de novo* review by a District Judge; (ii) to trial by jury in any proceeding so triable in this case or any case, controversy, or proceeding related to this case; (iii) to have the District Court withdraw the reference in any matter subject to mandatory or discretionary withdrawal; and (iv) to any other rights, claims, actions, setoffs or recoupments to which it is or may be entitled, in law or in equity, all of which rights, claims, actions, defenses, setoffs and recoupments Debtor expressly reserves. All of Debtor's rights are reserved and preserved, without exception and without confessing or conceding jurisdiction in any way by this filing or by any other participation in this case.

Respectfully submitted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

/s/ Kyung S. Lee

SHANNON & LEE, LLP

Kyung S. Lee

State Bar No. 12128400

klee@shannonleellp.com

R.J. Shannon

State Bar No. 24108062

rshannon@shannonleellp.com

700 Milam

Pennzoil Place-13<sup>th</sup> Floor Houston, Texas 77002

Proposed Co-Counsel for FSS, Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on August 12, 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing with the clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system.

/s/ Kyung S. Lee
Kyung S. Lee